

Aug 1968

CHORUS

9

The International Crosby Circle

ONE, TWO, BUTTON presents Put on your coat and hat;

BING

IF I HAD MY WAY play a game like wait-ing for you. THE COUNTRY GIRL

BELLS OF ST. MARY'S

ROAD TO MOROCCO

HERE IS MY HEART see, four, o.

ARTHUR'S COURT heav-ens sake;

PENNIES FROM HEAVEN

WAIKIKI WEDDING

BLUE SKIES

I count each step you take While I'm wait-ing for you.

ROAD TO UTOPIA

ONLY FOREVER

Edited by
FRANK MURPHY

GOING MY WAY

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 BING CROSBY incorporating LARRY CROSBY
 THE BRITISH CROSBY SOCIETY
 founded 1950

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"BING" the official private journal of THE INTERNATIONAL CROSBY CIRCLE is issued quarterly on the 5th of February, May, August and November. The magazine is edited and distributed free of cost to registered club members by Frank Murphy to whom all material should be sent - When your annual subscription is due a special notice will be included with your magazine. When writing to any of the club officers please always extend the courtesy of a stamped, self addressed envelope

Honorary Members include;

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 * PRESENTING "BING" THE TOP MAGAZINE FOR THE CROSBY ENTHUSIAST *

 ** THE INTERNATIONAL CROSBY CIRCLE **
 ** presents **
 ** Issue "BING" AUG.5 **
 ** No 11 === 1968; **

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 Album - pages 9-10-11-12 - (Issue number 3)

LATE NEWS-ITEMS:

The recent stoppages by ITV technicians did'nt harm Bing viewing as special Bing items appeared including THE BING CROSBY SHOW on a couple of occasions - also Northern viewers had a special treat on Friday evening August 9th when TTT presented a favourite Crosby movie of many, MR MUSIC.....Michael Crampton passes on the news that he will be holding a club meeting at his home on SUNDAY OCT 6th - commencing at 3pm, members should let Michael have their requests as early as possible - a 2/6 cover charge should be enclosed.....Members who liked the abstract)or something like that (cover which appeared on the January 1968 issue of this magazine, may be interested to learn that Frank Hatwell has produced a magnificent GIANT SIZE blow up of this on heavy art paper, black and white - if you'd like one of these send 12/6 (2 Dollars) to Frank Murphy.....Grateful editorial acknowledgement is made to Alf Farrow who has just stepped in to help with the production of our magazine. Alf's introduction, together with the already much appreciated presence of Reg Bristo and members like Fred Reynolds, Bert Day Alan Lurie and Ron Bosley who already type their own stencils ready for printing are helping to make your editors job so much easier, Fred Romary too over in New York may shortly be sending his material over already for the Rex Rotory, whilst on the subject of Fred I'd like also to pay tribute to his much appreciated news and photo service, a magnificent cover is already in production for the next issue and features Bing with one of his leading ladies of the early 30's, Mary Carlisle. Ken Mc Manus is about to descend on South Africa, our long time buddy has just secured a top post with a leading music publishing firm out there and as soon as he get's settled in, Ken will be listed as our S.A. rep out there, all the best K "Mc" M.....Our annual CHRISTMAS PRESENT FUND for Bing and Kathryn opens on September 1st this year, a little earlier than usual and the reason is to give our many overseas members a chance to contribute - Please send your contributions direct to Frank Murphy.....New club member Phil Clarke writes a nice friendly letter. Phil urgently needs a copy of the Bing album ON THE HAPPY SIDE (RCA) can any member help, write to Phil at 31 Prospect Lane, West Leigh, Havant, Hants. Phil has at least TWO spare copies of each Ace of Hearts album to help out with your wants.....Esther Romay of ATV Television Great Chamberland Place, London W 1 urgently requires personal news on Al Bowllly for a film ATV are planning for TV We've sent what we can via our 1930's club section, if you can help, please write to Miss Romay, mention you are a member of the club.....

What Bing calls "cutting up old
touches" with Louis Armstrong



Here Bing appears with beautiful
Grace Kelly in *High Society*



CHARLES COWDERY IS ALIVE AND WELL AND LIVING IN LONDON.

Did you read Michael CRAMPTON's reference to Charles CODERY in the last edition of the magazine? I did, in fact I am constantly reading references to Mr.COWDERY.

The very first time that I saw his name in print, was in the preface of part one of the Discography, "The Road to Bing Crosby", Charles was one of the very first researchers on that project.

He was one of the pioneer collectors, and must always have had a complete commercial collection, and just added to it as new releases came out. I first knew that Charles Cowdery lived near to me, when I called on a secondhand record dealer in East London looking for 78s of Bing, not a chance the dealer informed me, Mr Cowdery has bought them all, Where does he live I asked, somewhere near West Ham Football Ground mate he replied. I tried the London telephone directory, but the only two C.COWDERY's in the book were not Charles.

I thought that I would try Frank Murphy next, Frank knew of him but did not have a current address, I next tried Frank GRANT in Scotland, Frank also knew of Cowdery but did not know his present whereabouts. I later read of a new young collector who had at one time worked with Charles and had become interested in Bing through Charles, he too had lost contact with him through the years.

It was an article from Australian Collector John PURCHES that finally put me in contact with him. John had spent some time with the COWDERYs when he was last in England. I promptly wrote to Mr.COWDERY and received a reply just as quickly.

He is just as interested in Bing as he always has been, his interest has never waned, He is one of the pioneer Collectors who not only has a complete collection of Bings Commercial recordings, but complete collections of Vera Lynn, Max Miller, Flanagan and Allen, and maybe others too. During his many years on collection, he has traded and bought records from countries throughout the world, but has never joined any of the clubs or contributed to any of the magazines through these many years. He was surprised to hear that the Discography was now completed and was accepted as a book of reference for all collectors. and when I told him how scarce copies of the discography are to come by to day, he was not surprised.

I spoke to him on the telephone as recently as June this year, he is very fit and well, and was looking forward to receiving from the States his copies of the new L.P. "Thoroughly Modern Bing", and the albums of the early reissues on Columbia

During the past year or so, I have spoken to him about four times on the English speaking telephone machine, and have received about three letters from him during the same period. and although we live within five miles of each other, we have not as yet met. But I certainly hope to meet with him later this year, and ask him amongst other thing, the answers to Michael's question, "What does he think of Bing's activities during the past 18 years I will not print his address at the moment, he might get swamped with mail which may upset him. I will tell him of the interest in his views and ask his permission to disclose his address to other collectors. Perhaps I can get him to write a few lines for the magazine. I am sure that it will be of great interest to us all.

6.

+ According to widespread press reports,
quite a time was had at
Frank's home on May 26th.

+++++

One is always learning
something! The new M.F.P.
album, The Magic Touch of
Carroll Gibbons, featur-
ing of course, the Amer-
ican-born pianist-leader
of the famous Savoy Hotel
(London) Orpheans, has

as its first track,
Carroll's signature tune,
"On The Air" - with
"Violin Solo by Matty
Malneck". This was
recorded in London in
1932.

THE =====

REG BRISTO =====

COLUMNS =====

= With Respect and
Gratitude =

In the Irving Berlin
radio tribute, the famous
composer said quite cat-
egorically that Bing's
"White Christmas" has
sold 32-million!

As, presumably, he draws
royalties, his must be an
authoritative voice.

We continue to gripe at which we consider the radio and T.V.
neglect of Bing, yet the true and surprising thing is that we hear - and see Bing -
quite regularly. A typical week has just ended, and while I'm not a keen viewer or
listener (unless I know Bing is being featured) I've caught the following:

- (i) Two films of Bings, one on I.T.V. and the other on B.B.C. 2.
- (ii) A T.V. profile of Bob Hope in which, inevitably, Bing was featured.
- (iii) A radio profile " " " " " " " singing in
fact, "Team Work" and "The Road To Morocco".
- (iv) A radio programme about the incredible career of Irving Berlin - in which one
need hardly add perhaps, Bing appeared - and sang "White Christmas".
- (v) One I didn't hear, alas, but which was faithfully reported to me next day, the
story of a traveller who told how you could count on hearing one familiar voice
in any part of the world, almost, - that of Bing Crosby. He sang, it seems,
"Easy To Remember".

+ Then, on June 12th (in our area) "All Our Yesterday's" opened with Bing singing "You
Must Have Been A Beautiful Baby" - although he wasn't mentioned. I'm sure Brian Inglis
thought is quite superfluous so to do. Queer, isn't it, no matter how often one listens
to that record, to hear it on the air or the T.V. seems to make it all "new".

+ I suppose you caught the radio programme on Bob and heard the announcer ask how good
Bing was on the golf course. "Oh, he's quite good," said Bob, "you know he's got 'green-
fingers'? From counting!" Greenbacks, presumably.

(Cont. over.

+ Then, of course, we had the newsreel pictures of Bob's arrival with the interviewer quickly asking how Bing was: "Dad's fine", says Bob.

+ + +

SPORTS CORNER:

+ Which team won the F.A. CUP last May? Makes you think, doesn't it - unless you live in Everton (Liverpool) or West Bromwich (Birmingham). I remember well, because I was about to drop one of my periodic letters to Les Phythian, wishing him well for the big day (You know the Toffeemen are a religion with him?) - when I had a delightful letter from Eileen Knight in West Brom, ending with a "P.S. Keep your fingers crossed for the Albion on Saturday!"

H'm. What is a correspondent to do in such circumstances? I kept a judicious silence - for the truth is, while I like to think I am full of bonhomie, if Charlton Athletic can't win the Cup, I don't really care who does! So, bad luck Everton, well done Albion!

+ + +

+ For years a branch of Cardiff public libraries which I patronise had a copy of "Call Me Lucky". It was the good, full copy, with all the photographs intact. The, because of a tremendous new road project, the library was pulled down and its facilities transferred to another temporary building. Although I have a copy of sort of Bing's autobiography, I frequently used to consult this library copy.

+ On visiting the new premises for the first time, I noticed all the books had a "new" look. I looked, however, for "Call Me Lucky" - and it WASN'T THERE! What happens to books that are withdrawn from the library? I asked the lady in charge.

"Well, if we've had them for years, and they are showing signs of wear, they are destroyed - burnt," was the reply. I mentioned the missing book. She consulted the records and confirmed that it had been destroyed!

+ Then, innocuously I hope, I asked what happened if a borrower lost a library book?

+ "Well," said the lady, "it would depend on its condition - a brand new book would cost you about the full retail price - but mostly, seldom more than 7s.6d."

+ Yes, you know what I was thinking - but of course, I WAS TOO LATE!

+++++

ANOTHER LOST CHANCE:

+ Eileen Knight, by the way, had remarked that she was sorry she had missed the big story re. the I.C.C. in the Daily Mirror of last December. Having a copy, I sent it to her. Pleased as she was to read this great boost for the Circle, she understandably had mixed feelings when she read about "....the Bingsters, their adulation survives even thinning hair and wrinkled brows..." ! Eileen has neither, it is needless to add. But this was extravagant journalistic license, of course. When I was at Leeds a few months ago at a similar meeting these two depressing features were conspicuous by their absence. So, shall we apologise on the author's behalf to all our charming lady members? Most certainly.

+ But, it leads to another thought. A lost opportunity. Here, if we had recognised it, was a golden opportunity to flood the Mirror with "middle-aged? Not so!" letters from our younger members, boys and girls. Eileen, Mike Crampton, Mike Soper, and quite a number of others like Mrs. - but I won't proceed on those lines. But seriously, it should have been pointed out that Bing's appeal isn't now, anymore than it ever was, exclusively to one particular age group or section of the community.

+++++

OUT OF THE MOUTHS &C.

+ Speaking of young people my 17-year-old daughter pulled me up with a jerk a few weeks ago. She came in with a similarly-aged friend - who incidentally is a guitar-playing folk-singer - and said "May we have 'Basin Street' on Dad?" I'm ever-ready for a request of that nature.

+ They listened in absorbed silence until it was ended. "What do you think of that?" my daughter asked her friend. The friend tossed her head in a knowing manner. "Oh yes, great stuff, without a doubt" said friend.

+ My daughter thoughtfully stirred her tea and there was silence again. Suddenly she said, as if musing aloud: "You know, I'm not sure that wasn't Bing's best period!"

+ I don't know whether my jaw dropped physically - it did figuratively. Who was this speaking - Les, Fred, Bob, Ralph, Mike or any one of the leading appreciators?

+ I said: "You're a fine one to assess Bing's best period, my girl. I'm afraid you've a lot to learn on Mr. Crosby!"

+ Then she said: "Well, I don't see why I shouldn't have an opinion - quite apart from the fact that I've been listening to Bing - willy-nilly - for 12 years to my certain knowledge. And I'm quite certain I've been listening to Bing for longer than that even if I was too young to be aware of it."

+ And, of course, she's quite right. And now I come to think of it, she does sometimes break off in mid-Beatles or Stone's pop to resume with "Just One More Chance" or "Blue Prelude". So may be I should give my daughter her due and regard her as a qualified Crosby-expert. And, incidentally, pay more respect to her opinions! Come to think of it, she may even be right in this respect - Basin Street Blues!

+++++
Have to do a story one day on Bing's humour in songs! One could almost miss that great line, so unassumingly is it sung: "While a guy on a flute murders Claire de Lune". In "Digalle", of course. Quite a subtle change from "renders". (Holiday In Europe" album?).
+++++

==== BEWARE ----- RECORD SHOPS =====

+ Browsing around some record shops these days you can get quite a turn if you see an album by a character called BILL COSBY! The disappointment is grievous! But that's nothing compared to what happened to me the other day. We've most of us had something scathing to say about the way shops are run these days, and I don't particularly want to add to that - but this was a new one on me.

+ I espied an album that I had passed over a few years ago (in gross error, I might add), so I was quick to snap it up. I had to follow the usual procedure, i.e. take the sleeve to the counter, and have the record hunted down from the behind-the-counter shelves. Always I ask to see the record before it is put in the bag - and I did on this occasion. Fair enough, Bing Crosby so and so, etc. But when I got home, the inner sleeve caught my eye saying "To Be Played Only On Stereo Equipment". Now the outer sleeve was definitely printed MONO. I played one track and it sounded fine on Mono, but not wanting Stereo, and also not wishing to spoil the record, I returned to the shop next day.

+ "We don't change records," said the young lady, almost before I had a chance to say anything. "Well, you can please yourself," I finally replied, and explained what had happened. "Someone is going to buy the Stereo and find he has a Mono record when he gets home," I said, "my experience in reverse." Somewhat mollified, the assistant, who had probably been on haberdashery the day before - or gardening tools - looked for the Mono record. She came back, looking slightly puzzled but not worried. "It's not there," she said, "we must have sold it already!" So, obviously, some stereo enthusiast is either easily satisfied - or has a very poor opinion of the stereo-effect of his Bing Crosby album. The warning is plain, is it not? Check your records thoroughly before they whip them into the sleeve.

+++++
 The first in this new series dealt, in the last issue, with Bing's accompanists as a whole. Now follows the second - and alphabetical considerations go over aboard, very appropriately, for the illustrious personage of John Scott

== BING CROSBY ==

===== TROTTER =====

+++++ Accompanied By

===== JOHN SCOTT TROTTER =====

This legend appeared on more record labels than did any other pair of names. Some- as John Scott Trotter & his Orchestra, sometimes with orchestra directed by John Scott Trotter, John Scott Trotter's Dixieland Group, Eight, and so on.

+ Its a fine name that rolls off the tongue so easily....John Scott Trotter....it fully complements the name of the unique star he was accompanying for so many years...."Bing Crosby, Accompanied by John Scott Trotter & his Orchestra. Its music in itself.

+ Volumes could, and should, have been written about John Scott - but, surprisingly enough, they don't appear to have been. He was, by a wide margin, Bing's most-frequent musical director and arranger. Thus his place is assured for all time in popular music history. Crosby publications, including this one, alas, have been regrettably reticent about this musical pillar that supported Bing for no less than seventeen years.

MID-30'S ARRIVAL:

+ The desultory collector, and possibly the keener than desultory collector, could be forgiven perhaps if he or she was firmly of the opinion that say three-quarters of Bing's records had J.S.T. as the accompanist. Go into any second hand record shop and almost the first half-dozen Crosby records you pick up (if you're very lucky) would bear this name. Yet, surprisingly enough, though J.S.T.'s name appeared on 333 labels at least, this represents perhaps only one fifth of Bing Crosby's commercial output. An indissoluble and unforgettable association was forged in those three hundred and thirty-three songs.

+ Bing had already been recording for ten years or so before John Scott Trotter came

on the Crosby-scene. And, of course, Bing has carried on recording to date, another 14 years since John Scott left the scene, mainly it would seem, on a free-lance basis with no hard and fast contracts or musical directors.

+ Before John Scott came on the scene..... We know that he assisted on the musical arrangements for Bing's memorable film, "Pennies From Heaven". He obviously made a big impression, for when Jimmy Dorsey, not unnaturally - for he had his own notable career to consolidate - left Bing's radio show - the Kraft - Bing sent for John Scott. Shortly thereafter began the recording saga that lasted from 12th July, 1937 until 21st May, 1954. The first record, as you will see, was "It's The Natural Thing To Do" - and the last (is it, I wonder?) 21st May, 1954 and that was "In The Good Old Summer-time". True, "Nobody" was issued in December of 1954, but that came actually from a radio show of 2nd April, 1947 - a Philco show.

+ John Scott Trotter & his Orchestra was not a name dance orchestra in the style of White-man, Grier, Arnheim, the Dorseys, Lombardo, and so on, but rather an all-round, musically immaculate aggregations playing immaculately

JOHN SCOTT TROTTER (Cont).

musical arrangements, tailored to suit a Bing Crosby who had fulfilled his youthful promise in a manner that defied - and defies - over-adulation. The mature singer supreme of popular songs. If these arrangements, in the course of those 17 years, became perhaps a little predictable - as one leading Crosby pundit put it to me recently - can it be wondered at? There is a limit to the ways in which a popular song can be presented. The most that can be asked, surely, is that the arrangements and their execution remain - immaculate.

+ The orchestra could play "swingy" if not "swing" arrangements. It abounded in famous and highly proficient musicians and soloists, who did not, however, ever remotely challenge Bing as the "star" of the record. + Undoubtedly, if anyone was in a position to list the personnel of John Scott Trotter's Orchestra over the 17 years of Bing-association, it would be not only extremely lengthy but of absorbing interest. Can anyone do it? The string section was never less than tremendous - yet having said that I must say I always found the brass refreshingly attractive in general, with the trombones in particular, beautifully musical. This is particularly apparent today now that brass sections screech in frightening discord. Just a change in fashion, I suppose, but I'm thankful that John Scott reigned in a more musical age.

UNERRING APPRECIATION:

+ An unerring appreciation of a song's requirements was invariably in evidence in Trotter's work. For instance, he did not use the full orchestra in a futile effort to use such a medium for Dixieland songs. He gave us the Dixieland Group, or the Dixieland Eight. And of course, it was John Scott that supplied the accompaniment for the all-time greatest-selling records, "White Christmas", &c.

+ I might have to revise what I've said about "swing" and "swingy" arrangements above - there is a big difference - when it is considered that J.S.T. covered the Connie Boswell records! Basin St., Bob White, 18th & 19th Chestnut St, etc. He followed Bing faithfully through the tortuous but inspired paths mapped out by Jack Kapp - and that included almost every type of song, popular and indeed, not so popular in that lengthy list of songs covering almost every subject. Lest we imagine that all the Andrews Sisters records were made with Vic Schoen it should be pointed out that J.S.T.

presided over "I'll See You in Bahia" and "The Live Oak Tree" with the redoubtable sisters as late as February, 1952, little more than a year before the Andrews broke up - for the first time. Not long after that the unforgettable Connie came back after a long absence with "That's A Plenty". And of course, John Scott was present for the Crosby family records - as well as in the careful introduction of Gary avec pere to the recording business.

+ A further facet, but only making the slightest of impressions, is that of John Scott Trotter as composer. It will take a member of the Crosby hierarchy maybe to name the one instance, and to save the others needless research, the record concerned is "You Are The One" - with a gentleman named Carroll. It may well be that I have dismissed J.S.T. the composer too lightly. I shall be glad to hear.

WHAT IS THE REAL J.S.T. LIKE?

+ Pictures of J.S.T. show him to be a man of large proportions. I have had the privilege of listening to him on a private tape addressed to "his friends" in the I.C.C. and I had the impression he had a personality to match - and a very jovial one at that. + One of the stars that often appeared in the Trotter line-up was "Red" Nicholls of undying cornet and trumpet fame, and as a point of interest, his restrained obligatos to Bing in "It Had To Be You" have a most unusual, almost poignant, quality.

+ I realise I have little more than scratched the surface of the story of the remarkable John Scott Trotter. But if this scratching serves to provoke other reader/writers into action to repair some of the faults of omission in these pages on the subject, I shall be as delighted as anyone. It is highly likely that we shall have the opportunity of meeting J.S.T. in the not-too-distant future, so the time is particularly appropriate.

+ Starting on the following page is a full list of the songs that Bing has recorded accompanied by John Scott Trotter. It is a fairly simple list, i.e. no "takes", no matrix nos. indeed no record numbers. But it is a veritable list of musical history. You can mark off those you have - and those you have yet to come by, by hook or by crook.

+ We salute Bing Crosby's No. 1 accompanist with grateful thanks - JOHN SCOTT TROTTER.

++++(LIST OF RECORD ON NEXT PAGE) ++++++

BING CROSBY'S RECORDS WITH
JOHN SCOTT TROTTER

- | | | | |
|---|----------|---|----------|
| 1. It's The Natural Thing To Do. | 12/7/37 | 52. It Must Be True (With the Music Maids) | 3/4/39 |
| 2. All You Want To Do Is Dance. | " | 53. S'posing. | " |
| 3. The Moon Got In My Eyes. | " | 54. Whistling In The Wildwood. | 5/4/39 |
| 4. Smarty. | " | 55. And The Angels Sing. | " |
| 5. Can I Forget You? | 20/7/37 | 56. Wrap Your Troubles In Dreams. | 9/6/39 |
| 6. The Folks Who Live On The Hill. | " | 57. Girl Of My Dreams. | " |
| 7. I Still Love To Kiss You Goodnight. | " | 58. Missouri Waltz. | " |
| 8. Remember Me? | " | 59. Still The Bluebird Sings. | " |
| 9. Basin St. Blues (With Connee Boswell) | 25/7/37 | 60. Go Fly A Kite. | " |
| 10. Bob White. | " | 61. A Man & His Dream. | " |
| 11. My Heart Is Taking Lessons. | 21/1/38 | 62. Just One More Chance. | " |
| 12. This Is My Night To Dream. | " | 63. Start The Day Right (With Connee Boswell) | 22/6/39 |
| 13. On The Sentimental Side. | " | 64. An Apple For The Teacher. | " |
| 14. The Moon Of Manakoor. | " | 65. Neighbours In The Sky. | 30/6/39 |
| 15. Let Me Whisper I Love You (Murmullo) | 22/4/38 | 66. What's New? | " |
| 16. Don't Be That Way. | " | 67. Cynthia. | " |
| 17. I've Got a Pocket Full of Dreams. | 23/5/38 | 68. Medley of Gus Edwards' Song Hits: | |
| 18. Now It Can Be Told. | 23/5/38 | (a) Sunbonnet Sue. | |
| 19. Its The Dreamer In Me. | " | (b) Jimmy Valentine. | " |
| 20. Don't Let That Moon Get Away. (Test) | " | (c) If I Were A Millionaire. | " |
| 21. I've Got a Pocket Full of Dreams. | 11/7/38 | 69. In My Merry Oldsmobile (With The Music Maids) | " |
| 22. Don't Let That Moon Get Away. | " | 70. Too Romantic. | 15/12/39 |
| 23. Silver On The Sage. | " | 71. The Moon & The Willow Tree. | " |
| 24. Laugh And Call It Love. | " | 72. Sweet Potato Piper (Frying Pan 5 & The Foursome). | " |
| 25. Mexicali Rose. | " | 73. Between 18th & 19th On Chestnut Street (Connee Boswell) | " |
| 26. You're A Sweet Little Headache. | 4/11/38 | 74. Marcheta (A Song of Old Mexico) | 9/2/40 |
| 27. I Have Eyes. | " | 75. Tumbling Tumbleweeds. | " |
| 28. The Funny Old Hills. | " | 76. If I Knew Then. | " |
| 29. Joobalai. | " | 77. The Girl With The Pigtails In Her Hair. | " |
| 30. My Melancholy Baby. | 12/12/38 | 78. Devil May Care. | 25/2/40 |
| 31. I Cried For You. | " | 79. The Singing Hills. | " |
| 32. The Lonesome Road. | " | 80. I'm Waiting For Ships That Never Come In. | " |
| 33. When The Bloom Is On The Sage. (Frying Pan 5 & The Foursome). | " | 81. Beautiful Dreamer. | 22/3/40. |
| 34. Between A Kiss & A Sigh. | 19/12/38 | 82. I Dream of Jeanie With The Light Brown Hair. | " |
| 35. Just A Kid Named Joe. | " | 83. You Are My Heart's Delight. | " |
| 36. Its A Lonely Trail. | " | 84. Sierra Sue. | " |
| 37. Let's Tie The Old Forget-Me-Knot. | " | 85. Meet The Sun Half-Way. | 12/4/40. |
| 38. East Side of Heaven. | 10/3/39 | 86. April Played The Fiddle. | " |
| 39. Hang Your Heart On A Hickory Limb. | " | 87. I Haven't Time To Be A Millionaire. | " |
| 40. That Sly Old Gentleman. | " | 88. The Pessimistic Character (With the Crab-Apple Face). | " |
| 41. Sing A Song Of Sunbeams. | " | 89. When The Moon Comes Over Madison Square. | 3/7/40 |
| 42. Ida, Sweet As Apple Cider. } With | " | 90. That's For Me. (Test-Unissued) | " |
| 43. Poor Old Rover. } Frying | " | 91. Only For Ever. | " |
| 44. Down By The Old Millstream. } Pan 5 &c | " | | |
| 45. God Bless America. (With Max Terr's Mixed Chorus) | 22/3/39 | | |
| 46. The Star-Spangled Banner. | " | | |
| 47. If I Had My Way. | 31/3/39 | | |
| 48. Little Sir Echo (With the Music Maids) | " | | |
| 49. I Surrender, Dear. | " | | |
| 50. I'm Building A Sailboat of Dreams. | " | | |
| 51. El Rancho Grande (Frying Pan 5 & The | | | |

(Cont....

RECORDS WITH JOHN SCOTT TROTTER (Cont)

92. Rhythm On The River. (Test-Unissued)		143. Song Of Freedom. (With the Ken Darby Singers).	29/5/42
93. Rhythm On The River.	3/7/40	144. The Bombardier Song. (With The Music Maids & Hal).	1/6/42
94. That's For Me.	10/7/40	145. Easter Parade.	"
95. I Found A Million Dollar Baby.	"	146. Happy Holiday. (With the Music Maids & Hal).	"
96. Can't Get Indiana Off My Mind.	"	147. Be Careful, Its My Heart.	"
97. Legend Of Old California.	27/7/40	148. <u>Adeste Fidelis</u> (O Come All Ye Faithful). (With Max Terr's Mixed Chorus).	8/6/42
98. Please.	"	149. <u>Silent Night, Holy Night.</u> (With Max Terr's Mixed Chorus).	"
99. You Are The One.	"	150. Faith Of Our Fathers.	"
100. Prairieland Lullaby.	"	151. God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen. (With Max Terr's Mixed Chorus).	"
101. Along The Santa Fe Trail.	3/12/40	152. My Great, Great, Grandfather. (With Chorus).	12/6/42
102. Lone Star Trail.	"	153. A Boy In Khaki, A Girl In Love.	"
103. Its Always You.	"	154. Moonlight Becomes You.	"
104. I'd Know You Anywhere.	"	155. Constantly.	"
105. You're Dangerous.	20/12/40	156. Poinciana. (Song of The Tree)	1/10/43
106. A Nightingale Sang In Berkeley Square.	"	157. I'll Be Home For Christmas.	"
107. You Lucky People You.	"	158. It Could Happen To You.	29/12/43.
108. Birds Of A Feather.	"	159. September Song.	"
109. Who Calls?	23/5/41	160. San Fernando Valley.	"
110. Lullaby (Cradle Song): Brahms Opus 49, No. 6) With Sam Freed Violin Solo)	"	161. <u>Swinging On A Star.</u> (With Williams Bros. Quartet).	7/2/44
111. You & I.	"	162. The Day After Forever.	"
112. Be Honest With Me. (J.S.T. Eight)	"	163. Going My Way.	"
113. Goodbye, Little Darling, Goodbye.	"	164. I Love You.	11/2/44
114. Clementine. (With the Music Maids & Hal)	14/6/41	165. I'll Be Seeing You. (Unissued)	"
115. The Old Oakn Bucket.	"	166. Night & Day.	"
116. Lights Out 'Til Reveille.	"	167. Amor, Amor.	17/2/44
117. Sweetheart Of Sigma Chi.	"	168. I'll Be Seeing You.	"
118. Sweetly She Sleeps, My Alice Fair.	16/6/41	169. One Sweet Letter From You. (Trumpet Solo by Buddy Goodrich)	"
119. Dream Girl of Pi. K.A.	"	170. On The Aitchison, Topeka, & The Santa Fe (With Six Hits & A Miss)	"
120. I Wonder What's Become of Sally?	"	171. Long Ago & Far Away.	3/5/44
121. Old Black Joe.	"	172. Like Someone In Love.	"
122. Mary's A Grand Old Name.	"	173. Begin The Beguine.	"
123. Oh! How I Miss You Tonight	5/7/41	174. Dearly Beloved.	"
124. Don't Break The Spell.	"	175. I'll Remember April.	7/7/44
125. Dear Little Boy Of Mine.	"	176. Too-Ra-Loe-Ra-Loe-Ra-Eah.	"
126. Nell & I.	"	177. Moonlight On A White Picket Fence.	"
127. Danny Boy.	"	178. Iowa.	17/7/44
128. Where The Turf Meets Surf. (Unissued).	"	179. Welcome To My Dreams.	"
129. Miss You.	24/1/42	180. It's Anybody's Spring.	"
130. Mandy Is Two.	"	181. Let Me Call You Sweetheart.	"
131. Angels Of Mercy. (Special Issue - Not U.K.)	"	182. Sleigh Ride In July.	19/7/44
132. Skylark.	"	183. A Friend Of Yours.	"
133. Blues In The Night. (With the Music Maids).	27/1/42	184. Would You?	"
134. Moonlight Cocktail.	"	185. Let's Take The Long Way Home.	4/12/44
135. I Don't Want To Walk Without You.	"	186. Out Of This World.	"
136. Lily Of Laguna. (With Mary Martin).	13/3/42	187. I Promise You. (Rejected).	"
137. Wait 'Til The SunShines Nellie. (With Mary Martin).	"	188. More & More.	"
138. Got The Moon In My Pocket.	16/3/42	189. Strange Music. (Based on Grieg's "Wedding Day".)	11/12/44
139. Just Plain Lonesome.	"		
140. The Waltz Of Memory.	"		
141. White Christmas.	29/5/42		
142. Abraham. (With The Ken Darby Singers)	"		

RECORDS WITH JOHN SCOTT TROTTER (Cont.)

190. June Comes Around Every Year (With Girls' Octet).	11/12/44	236. I Do, Do, Do, Love You. (With the Skylarks).	12/5/47
191. More & More.	"	237. Komono, Indiana.	"
192. I Promise You.	15/12/44	238. The Old Chaperone.	"
193. I Love You.	"	239. Lullaby Land.	12/6/47
194. These Foolish Things.	"	240. Suspense.	"
195. I'd Rather Be Me.	21/1/45	241. You Took Advantage Of Me. (Rejected)	"
196. Just One Of Those Things.	"	242. Embraceable You. (With The Chickadees).	12/11/47
197. All Of My Life.	"	243. Pass That Peace Pipe	"
198. Why Do I Like You? (Special Rest- ricted issue).	3/3/45	244. They Can't Take That Away From Me.	"
199. Temptation. (With Chorus).	"	245. Love Walked In.	"
200. Close As Pages In a Book (Rejected)	"	246. I'll See You In My Dreams.	27/11/47
201. Early American (originally U.S. only but later issued here)	"	247. Swinging Down The Lane.	"
202. Too-Ra-Loora-Ra-Loora-Rah. (Rejected)	18/4/45	248. Memories.	"
203. If I Loved You.	"	249. Ballerina (Dance, Ballerina, Dance) (With The Rhythmairs).	3/12/47
204. Close As Pages In A Book.	"	250. Golden Earrings.	"
205. I Love You Truly.	"	251. Pretty Baby.	"
206. Just A'wearying For You.	"	252. Rosalie.	"
207. Too-Ra-Loora-Rah-Loora-Rah. (Rerec- because of previous technical difficulties).	17/7/45	253. Love Me Or Leave Me.	24/12/47
208. The Rose of Tralee.	"	254. Oh You Crazy Moon. (Unissued).	"
209. Where The Blue Of The Night.	"	255. Easy To Love.	"
210. I'll Take You Home Again, Kathleen.	"	256. I've Got You Under My Skin.	"
211. In The Land of Beginning Again.	10/9/45	257. Imagination.	"
212. Aren't You Glad You're You?	"	258. I'd Love To Live In Loveland With A Girl Like You.	"
213. The Bells Of St. Mary's.	"	259. Katrina. (With The Rhythmairs).	"
214. Oh But I Do. (Rejected).	22/3/45	260. If I Loved You.	"
215. A Gal In Calico.	"	261. Haunted Heart.	31/12/47
216. When Irish Eyes Are Smiling.	7/5/46	262. A Fella With An Umbrella.	"
217. A Gal In Calico. (With the Calico Kids.).	"	263. Love Thy Neighbour.	"
218. Oh But I Do.	"	264. Bali Ha'i.	10/3/49
219. That Tumbledown Shack in Athlone.	"	265. Some Exchanted Evening.	"
220. All By Myself.	18/7/46	266. Sorry. (With the Jud Conlon Singers).	16/11/49
221. Blues Skies (With Choir).	"	267. Stay Well.	"
222. You Keep Coming Back Like A Song (With Vocal Quartet).	"	268. The Little Grey House.	"
223. Getting Nowhere. (With Vocal Quartet)	"	269. Rudolph, The Red-Nosed Reindeer (With Jud Conlon's Rhythmairs)	22/6/50
224. Everybody Step	"	270. A Crosby Christmas, With Gary, Phillip, Lindsay, Dennis and The Jeff Alexander Chorus).	"
225. A Serenade To An Old-Fashioned Girl	"	Deck The Halls With Holly. That Christmas Feeling. I'd Love To Hitch A Ride with Santa Claus.	5/9/50.
226. A Couple of Song & Dance Men (With Fred Astaire).	24/7/46	The Snowman.	"
227. I'll See You In Cuba (With Trudy Erwin).	"	271. A Crosby Christmas, Part 2.	"
228. I've Got My Captain Working For Me Now.	"	272. That Christmas Feeling. (With the Jeff Alexander Chorus).	6/9/50
229. As Long As I'm Dreaming.	14/11/46	273. Silver Bells. (With Carole Richards).	8/9/50.
230. Smile Right Back At The Sun.	"	274. Sentimental Music.	2/2/51.
231. The One I Love.	"	275. Silver Moon.	"
232. Country Style (With the Calico Kids)	19/11/46	276. I Might Be Your Once-In-A-While	7/2/51
233. My Heart Is A Hobo.	"	277. Indian Summer.	"
234. White Christmas (With the Ken Darby Singers)	19/3/47	278. More I Cannot Wish You. (With Jud Conlon's Choir).	"
235. Silent Night, Holy Night. (With the Ken Darby Singers).	"	279. The Loneliness of Evening. (With Jud Conlon's Choir).	"
		280. Let Me Look At You. (With Jud Conlon's Choir).	"

RECORDS WITH JOHN SCOTT TROTTER (Cont.)

281. Any Town Is Paris When You're Young 8/2/51.
282. Old Soldiers Never Die. (With The Rhythmaires) Taken from an early April '51 broadcast as a tribute to General MacArthur. Not issued in the U.S. 25/4/51
283. Gone Fishin' (With Louis Armstrong). "
284. Row, Row, Row. 8/6/51
285. Bonne Nuit. 20/6/51
286. Your Own Little House. "
287. Christmas In Killarney. (With Jud Conlon's Rhythmaires) 1/10/51
288. Its Beginning To Look like Christmas (With Jud Conlon's Rhythmaires) "
289. When The World Was Young. 4/10/51
290. Domino. "
291. A Weaver Of Dreams. 19/10/51
292. I Still See Elisa. "
293. At Last! At Last! "
294. The Isle Of Innisfree. "
295. Sailing Down The Chesapeake Bay. (J.S.T. Dixieland Group) 14/2/52
296. Ida, Sweet As Apple Cider. (With Red Nichols, Cornet). "
297. Nobody's Sweetheart. (Buddy Cole piano solo). "
298. It Had To Be You. (Red Nicholls, cornet.) "
299. I'll Si-Si You In Bahia. (With The Andrews Sisters) 21/2/52
300. The Live Oak Tree. (With The Andrews Sisters). "
301. Spring Fever. (Rejected). "
302. Fatherly Advice. (With Gary Crosby) 17/11/52
303. Sleigh Ride (With Jud Conlon's Rhythmaires). "
304. I Love My Baby. "
305. Little Jack Frost Get Lost (With Peggy Lee). "
306. That's A Plenty. (With Connie Boswell). "
307. Keep It A Secret. (With Jud Conlon's Rhythmaires). 12/11/52
308. Sleigh Bell Serenade. "
309. There's Music In You. 9/2/53
310. Ohio. (With Jud Conlon's Rhythmaires) "
311. The Magic Window. (Rejected). "
312. A Quiet Girl. "
313. Cela M'Est Egal. (If Its All The Same To You). 12/3/53
314. The Magic Window "
315. Violets & Violins. "
316. Apropos De Rien. "
317. What A Little Moonlight Can Do. (With Gary Crosby). 4/11/53
318. Down By The Riverside (With Gary) "

319. I Love Paris. 31/12/53
320. Secret Love. "
321. Stranger In Paradise. "
322. Vaya Con Dios. "
323. No Other Love. "
324. My Love, My Love. 31/3/54.
325. Lienchen. "
326. Tobermory Bay. "
327. Lost In Loveliness. "
328. The River. (Sciummo) "
329. Oh, Tell Me Why. (With Male Chorus). 28/4/54.
330. If You Love Me. 30/4/54.
331. Liza. 21/5/54.
332. In The Good Old Summertime. "
333. Nobody. (Actually from a Philco Radio show of 2/4/47) 31/12/54.

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+ Unintentionally, I've included some "Rejected" records. This was done because it would have upset the numbering and in any case, the records were made if not issued. It is easy to understand that there were sessions when something quite unexpected went wrong. The equipment, perhaps, had unforeseen defects. Its easy to imagine that a "mike" went dead, leaving the balance all wrong, &c.

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IT IS FREELY, INDEED GRATEFULLY, ACKNOWLEDGED THAT THE LIST OF RECORDS AND DATA GIVEN HERE - AND IN ALL SUBSEQUENT STORIES IN THIS SERIES - IS CULLED FROM THE PAGES OF THAT MOMENTOUS DISCOGRAPHY, "THE ROAD TO BING CROSBY, PARTS 1-4 INCL." PUBLISHED BY THE "CROSBY COLLECTOR". I AM INDEBTED TO THE AUTHORS FOR PERMISSION TO REPRODUCE MY ANALYSES OF THEIR PRODIGIOUS WORK.

+ It is realised that the large majority of our readers do not possess this highly valued discography - or indeed, a discography of any kind. So although the foregoing list is not a discography in the true sense of the word it should nevertheless prove of value and interest to such readers. By the time this series, "BING CROSBY, ACCOMPANIED BY...." is finished readers will have a comprehensive history of Bing's recordings issued commercially, i.e. those issued in the normal manner over the years.

+ It may not, it is hoped, be entirely valueless to the higher calibre collectors; in that a chronological list such as this can inspire all kinds of new thoughts and angles. For instance, they may be able to pin-point what have been called "bad" patches in the imperishable voice! I disagree in advance! + It is easy to imagine that the ladies will

(Cont over

RECORDS WITH JOHN SCOTT TROTTER (Cont.)

perhaps gain a new, or further, esteem for a favourite record on learning that it was recorded on their birthday!

+ I myself find these lists infinitely absorbing. You can pinpoint the time of the disastrous musicians' strike in America - which robbed us of a full year of Crosby records between 1942-3. You can observe that Bing had some very busy days indeed in the recording studio. Eight songs in a day were put on wax - and remember, this was in the days before pre-recorded accompaniments were fashionable, or indeed, possible.

+ It should, too, be borne in mind when studying this list that these are the records with one accompanist only. Bing was busily making records between times with all kinds of other backings, even though it is true to say that John Scott Trotter was the sheet-anchor.

+ Finally, it is highly possible, indeed, extremely likely that Bing made scores more records than are in fact shown which have never seen the light of day and lie in the Decca vaults. Although THE ROAD TO BING CROSBY was compiled by dint of incredible research and patience the possibility of these unknown records existing is an accepted fact. It occurs to me that when I said above "days before pre-recorded accompaniment" that was not strictly accurate, for though it was not done on anything like the scale that it is today, I believe there are instances early in Bing's career when he "dubbed" a vocal over a band's recorded track - was it Guy Lombardo's. I shall have to do a bit more research!

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THE NEXT IN THIS SERIES WILL BE DEVOTED TO THE RECORDS BING HAS MADE WITH HIS
SECOND MOST-FREQUENT MUSICAL DIRECTOR - VICTOR YOUNG.

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+ Paying our tribute to John Scott Trotter brought to mind an amusing incident that happened a few years ago - and illustrates how John's name was impressed on the public mind.

+ I happened to be doing the chores of M.C. at a dance. This was a proper dance, i.e. with a band, and the pianist doubled occasionally on piano-accordion. Naturally, I spent a good deal of time chatting to the members of the band, especially the pianist-accordionist, who happened to be the leader. We got to talking about accordion-playing and this chat remarked that while playing the piano was a big help in taking on the accordion, there was a lot different about the latter instrument that one had to learn. "As a matter of fact," he said, "I was taught by John Scott Trotter!"

+ This was rather surprising to me, and I must have looked puzzled. "Yes - I used his tutor," said the pianist with a grin. I still wasn't happy about it, and remarked that it was news to me that John Scott Trotter had written an accordion tutor.

+ "Oh yes," replied the pianist, "one of the finest ever produced. Thousands have learned to play from it."

+ "Are you sure it's John Scott Trotter you mean", I asked, still unable to accept it and not wishing to tell the chap he was wrong - or a liar! "Quite definite," he said. "Well, I don't want to argue about it, so I'll content myself with saying that I am very surprised - and interested - to know that John Scott Trotter wrote an accordion-tutor."

+ It was some weeks after that I bumped into the chap again - and he was particularly pleased to see me. "Hey, remember me telling you about the accordion tutor? Well, you were right - it wasn't John Scott Trotter. It was GEORGE SCOTT-WOOD!" Ah now, I understood. Most readers will remember the latter, with his bands, particularly his good outfit The Six Swingers, of the 30's and 40's on the British scene. "Yes," carried on my pianist-friend, "I got really mixed up - John Scott Trotter is the man who always plays for Bing Crosby, isn't he."

+ The only thing that will knock this little anecdote sideways is to learn that John Scott Trotter did, in fact, once write a tutor on playing the piano-accordion;

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TAKING THE MIKE

AS TO THE MANNER BORN - AND SETTING A PATTERN THAT ALL OTHERS VAINLY TRY TO FOLLOW:

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+ Recently I wrote, rather lightheartedly, in another magazine, what a good job it was that highly efficient electrical recording on discs had arrived when it did - otherwise we would be in a dreadful position trying to store and maintain those old cylinder records - apart from the pain of listening to them! This aroused some comment, and one of them in particular, crystallised some thoughts I have long had at the back of my mind to discourse on. The letter came from our old friend in South Australia - Doug. Black. He wrote:

+'Regarding your remark that it is fortunate that cylinder records had disappeared by the time the Golden Age of dance-bands arrived, was it just lucky coincidence? Or, taking it further, was it just luck that popular vocalists became the vogue about the time that electrical recording was introduced? How would Bing have fared using a megaphone, or singing into a similar device for recording purposes? I think the whole sequence of development is interwoven. Of course, Bing was already born and it was inevitable that he would have attracted a certain following, but the whole style of "popular singing" depends so much on the use of the intimate microphone that, without it, I think the whole world of entertainment would have developed along some other line. Allied to this development, of course, was the introduction of "talkies" around the same time.'

+ So says Douglas, and its a fair assessment. No one can possibly deny that Bing owed a lot to the microphone, records, and radio - and of course, musical and talking pictures. Thus briefly, is the story of Bing's life, one might say. But the description "crooner" has always irked me, or to use the contemporary phrase: "it bugs me"! There is something faintly derogatory about the description - more so 35 years ago than now, perhaps.

BING'S OWN VIEW:

+ According to most dictionaries, "to croon" means to sing low, in a murmuring style, as to a baby, soothingly..." Bing himself touches on the subject in characteristically candid style in "Call Me Lucky", viz. -

"It was Hope who thought up the vulgarization 'groaner', for the word 'crooner'. I've been asked, more times than I could shake an answer at, when the word 'crooner' was invented. It originally meant someone who crooned into a small megaphone or made mooing noises into a microphone. In France they call a crooner a

chanteur de charme. I suppose this means a singer of charm, although it seems a loose term to describe me.

"Crooner connotes a slurring of words until they're mashed together in a hot mush in the mouth. When I'm asked to describe what I do I say 'I'm not a singer; I'm a phraser.' That means that I don't think of a song in terms of notes; I try to think of what it purports to say lyrically. That way it sounds more natural, and anything more natural is more listenable." End of quote.

+ Some comments on this first. "More times than I can shake an answer at..." A typical Crosbyism, don't you think? Groaner? One can't be irked at that for obviously it was a Bob Hope crack that stuck, and was useful both for badinage - and publicity! But you note, Bing deftly but definitely draws a line between "what he does" and crooning.

THE USE OF MICROPHONE:

+ Nowadays, "local" amplification (by which I mean amplification to, or in, the actual hall

"TAKING THE MIKE" (Cont).

or auditorium in which the performers or singer actually are) is taken to lunatic lengths. Indeed, one reads that the medical profession are seriously concerned at potential damage to ear-drums of the people who frequent discotheques and dance-halls these days because of the maniacal amplification that is used.

+ Originally, the microphone was developed as a technical necessity, being the device by which sound was "trapped" and channelled on to wax - or cylinders. We have all seen those pictures of Dame Clara Butt singing into what appeared to be an enormous box. Yet that was an early microphone for the purpose mentioned. And of course, it was necessary for transferring sound to air, or perhaps I'd better say, radio waves. "Local" amplification was a later refinement. I can well remember reading a story by Jack Payne, the famous bandleader of the B.B.C. in the early 30's, describing how disconcerting he had found his band's appearance in a Royal Variety Command Performance. Jack recounted that the acoustic problem of simultaneously amplifying sound to the auditorium and to the radio transmitters hadn't been solved. So the theatre audience was mystified when his band played quietly while he addressed the "mike", for they could hear nothing, while to the radio audience in their homes heard a perfectly normal Payne performance. So, when were microphones for amplifying in dance halls, restaurants, theatres, etc. first introduced?

+ Did Bing, Harry Barris and Al Rinker have a microphone when they first performed for Paul Whiteman? Did Bing ever use a megaphone in Rudy Vallee style? Frankly, I don't know - but there are two more stories, and views, we might consider.

PERTINENT KITTY:

+ Kitty Carlisle, the well-remembered glamorous film star, pooh-poohed the idea that Bing was a crooner many years ago. "Why," she said, "it's ridiculous to call Bing Crosby a crooner - he can blast you out of the room with that voice." She went on to say that what it took most singers years to learn in the way of harmony, timing, breathing, phrasing, etc. Bing seemed to know by instinct. Fluffy-looking Kitty may have been - but she was no feather-brain - and she had studied music and singing in Rome and Paris. And of course, she saw and heard a lot of Mr. C. from very close quarters.

RUDY VALLEE'S MEMORIES: Just as interesting, and perhaps more illuminating, is a story from "The Rudy Vallee Story" by Vallee & McKean. It runs as follows:

"One of the (Ben) Bernie dates was memorable. We went down to Baltimore to play a debutante party. At intermission, acts playing nearby theatres were brought in to entertain. One such was the Rhythm Boys who were playing Baltimore with Paul Whiteman. It was a crowded place, and the trio working only with a piano was back against the wall of a gym, and nobody paid much attention to their performance. Suddenly, however, one of them walked out to the centre of the floor and delivered a popular song of the day, "Montmartre Rose". There was no amplifying system in those days.

+ When he had finished, there was a deafening roar of applause which would have called for at least two encores. Instead, he walked off the floor where we sat, his classic features expressionless, his Patrician nose just a bit up in the air. You might have thought him deaf, so unaware he seemed of the sensation he had created. But then, this insouciance has always characterised Bing Crosby".

+ Well, there is first-hand evidence that Bing knocked 'em cold without a microphone, megaphone, or any other assistance - apart from his unique and, I've always maintained, powerful voice.

+ Assuredly too, when Bing stepped out in front of the Musicals to sing his first-ever: "For Me & My Gal" microphones were a long way off in the future.

COMETH THE MIKE - AND BING WAS ALL READY.

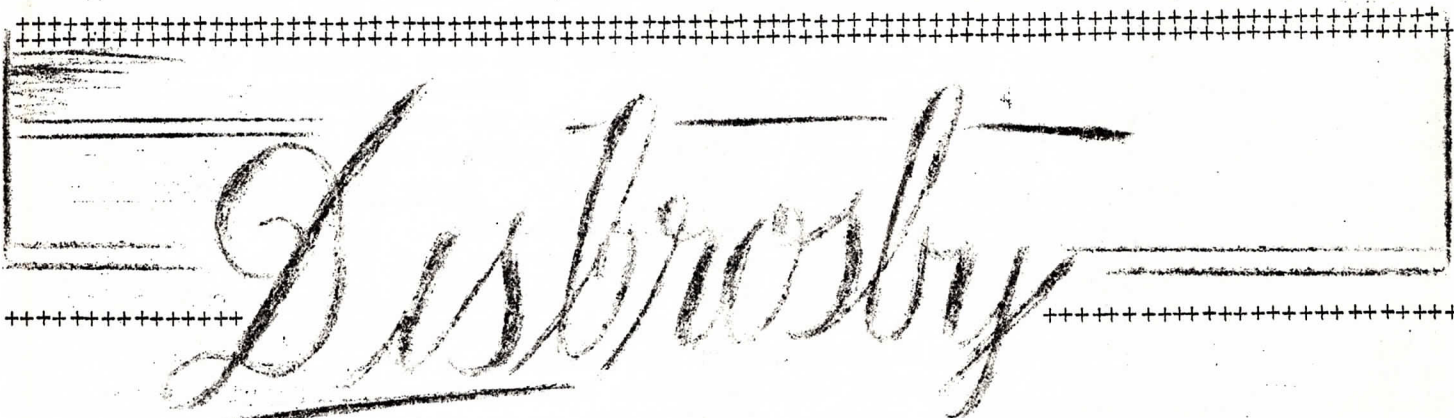
+ So, indubitably, the microphone came along, and Bing used it as to the manner born. Perhaps indeed, it was as Doug. suggests, all part of an interwoven pattern. Bands coming to the fore as popular entertainment units, quite apart from dancing to them, introducing singers who could make the songs more "listenable" that the previous concept of singers could do, the need to transfer voices to records and radio waves, talking pictures. As you will perhaps recall, however, I only set out to disprove that Bing is purely and simply a crooner. Croon he undoubtedly can, but with immaculate phrasing and diction - not the mushy-mouth idiom.

+ Very conveniently, the two-album C.B.S. set we have all been so desperately waiting for,

"TAKING THE MIKE" Cont.

is now readily available, and if ever eloquent testimony was needed to prove the absurdity of the label "crooner" as applied to Bing Crosby, the tracks on this set provide it. If that rich, powerful, highly listenable voice is "crooning" - pick where you like: "Temptation", "We'll Make Hay While The Sun Shines", "Love Thy Neighbour", "Thanks", the dictionaries of the world need correcting as to their definition of the word!

+ There is probably a simple - and tolerable - explanation: A new label was needed to tag this unique type of singing, which wasn't the mushy, nasal whine that had, it must be admitted, been in evidence, and it wasn't the feet-planted-on-the-ground, head-thrown-back concert-style of singing. So they made Bing "King of the Crooners". He's King alright but not only of the crooners!



+ That in-out-in-piano solo in "Temptation", omitted from the Realm & Hallmark issues, has returned in the C.B.S. set. I'm glad, although I can't say I like that particular piano solo, as I've said before to the disgust of Les Gaylor, I'm certain. I'm glad because I dislike tracks being messed about and edited. If you're reproducing the authentic 78's, let them stay that way, and no monkeying.

+ + +
+ So the multi-label album has added yet another scalp to its collection - Bing Sings While Bregman Swings, The Very Best of Bing Crosby, &c. M.F.P. have acted with commendable speed in issuing this album so quickly after the Bing & Louis offering. Too bad we have all long got it, but no doubt it will add considerably to Bing's overall sales figure appearing as it does on this very well presented (to the public) label. Its entitled quite simply "Bing Crosby". M.F.P. will not, alas, win any prizes for the surrealistic-looking picture of the Maestro on the cover! I don't think I've ever seen such an unhappy photograph of him - drawing, I mean. But to see a Crosby album really presented to the public instead of being sneaked onto the shelves is a tonic - as it was to hear the peerless voice booming out over loudspeakers in big departmental stores again, as I've heard it in three this past week. "Mountain Greenery" and "Jeepers Creepers" sounded great. I can even be indulgent to Bregman in these circumstances!

+ + +
+ I've had a few letters from younger people expressing disappointment that this M.F.P. is one they already have - less two titles, of course. Actually, M.F.P. omitted two of the best titles in "The Song is You" and "'Deed I Do". But the sad truth is, M.F.P. do not have access to enough vintage Crosby tracks to make up an album - even if E.M.I. would permit it, which I doubt. Still, I think M.F.P. is perhaps the finest development since the invention of the L.P. I suppose its on the cards they will issue "El Senor Bing".

+ + +
+ What can one say about this two-album C.B.S. set "Bing Crosby in Hollywood 1930-34"? That its a "must" - ridiculous! Any Crosby album is a must to those who think like us. After due consideration I'm bound to confess that in my opinion this is the greatest issue of Bing Crosby ever. Apart from its incomparable contents, there is no doubt that a new standard has been achieved in the transcription of old - very old - 78's in this wonderful

(Cont over.

set. I can play it on my apparatus with "max bass" not operative, yet not find surface hiss unduly intruding. True, they sound just a bit different to the original 78's (which we will all keep for purely nostalgic reasons!) but nothing is lost - in fact, much has been gained. Venuti and Lang, for instance, sound almost hi-fi! A tremendous achievement by the transcribers.

+ + +

+ To those who began collecting Bing in the 40's and 50's, or even later - I envy you! In a way that is - perhaps not truly, for I'm glad I was around in the early 30's and heard this Bing! Those wonderful years when these equally wonderful songs were coming along one after the other. In retrospect, perhaps they weren't so wonderful years - But Bing made them so. Ah yes, Bing made them so. Here are the songs, here is the voice, that captured not only teenagers, but all stratas and age-groups. And who can doubt why?

+ + +

+ I cannot bring myself to believe that there is any true Crosby collector without these two albums, although I'm grieved to say that despite my earnest pleas to the London office of C.B.S., they were snaked into the record shops in the furtive style we have come to expect. Why even those of us who knew they were on the way were writing to each other: Have you seen them yet?. So, if there are of those amongst us who haven't yet got them, I want them to get up out of their chairs and proceed to the nearest record shop, and buy for themselves the great musical treat they've EVER bought. I'm not exaggerating. To do so in respect of these records is impossible.

+ + +

+ They will hear the songs and the voice which compel a small minority of Crosby fans to say "He should have finished there!" I, I hasten to add, am not among that minority. Indeed, the idea is abhorrent to me. I am one of those who get a chill of apprehension when we get - as we did a few years ago - whisper that Bing was on the point of retirement. Thank goodness he is a "ham" (his own description, not mine) and has got the business so completely a part of him that complete and official retirement is, I fervently hope, still a long way in the future.

+ + +

+ This set complement's the Brunswick BING 1 to 15 incl, i.e. 1934 to 1954 in films. Now at last we go from 1930 (and earlier) to 1954. I fancy one can to an extent mark the decline in great song-writing. 1930-34 is great from start to finish. BING carries on at 1 (and subsequently) in much the same style, yet there is a gradual, very faint, decline in the standard, perhaps, most prominent in say the final two, 14 and 15. If only some company would grab that wonderful song "Auf Wiedersehen" from whichever film company holds it - my collection would still be far from complete, but my happiness would be.

+ + +

+ To hear these wonderful songs: "May I?", "Our Big Love Scene", "Goodnight, Lovely Little Lady", "Love Thy Neighbour", "I Guess It Had To Be That Way", "Love In Bloom", the whole darn lot of 'em, rolling off in one tremendous musical panorama brings back the past as no other set can. I urge the younger members to get this if so far they have back-pedalled. This is the nearest they can ever get to recapturing the thrill of those early years of Bing Crosby. And the memories for the older of us! How well I remember a holiday at Southend, where in the famous Kurzaal the roundabouts, doge'ems, etc., were all belting out these great songs and this peerless voice. I swear I stayed in the Kurzaal all day merely to listen to the records! And I had 'em at home, too!

+ + +

+ And yet, even now it is possible to "discover" something new in these tracks, surprising as it may seem. For instance, although I've heard the record literally hundreds of times, if anyone had asked me what song Bing sang in tango-time on this set, I would have been non-plussed, believing he never did such a thing. Yet "After Sundown" is in tango tempo, isn't it.

20. DISCROSBY (Cont).

+ That tremendous slice of nostalgia, "Down The Old Ox Road". Isn't that a strange song as regards its make-up? To me, the verse and chorus have always sounded totally divorced, being written in a totally different style, don't you agree? Written, of course, by Sam Coslow and a gentleman named Arthur. Which reminds me. We saw Sam Coslow on the telly the other night - as an economic and financial expert in a serious programme!

+ + +

+ It may seem too absurd to be true, yet nevertheless it's a fact in the 30's - and indeed, up to half-a-dozen years ago, the B.B.C. was puritanical in the extreme in what it allowed to be broadcast. I can remember several popular songs that were banned: an ironic offering called "The Fig Got Up & Slowly Walked Away" was one. I cannot remember the lyrics clearly but they referred to a drunk who landed in the gutter beside a pig, of all things. This chap was so soused that the title-line of the song became operative. "Paper Doll" was banned for many years because the B.B.C. considered there was something improper in such a creation. And any popular song which even hinted at "taking the mick" out of religion was automatically out. Or a song that was excessively and morbidly sad, e.g. "Gloomy Sunday" was a song banned here - perhaps with good reason for it was officially stated that several people all over the world were moved to commit suicide on account of its utter sombre, sadness. So I was not a little apprehensive when Bing sang "Love Thy Neighbour" with its obvious Biblical connotation. Yet, happily, it was not put on the "list", thank goodness. Bing even then, was above suspicion or criticism - as he still is.

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+ Wonderful song! "She Walks Like" - may she never tell those little lies like you! "We'll Make Hay While The Sun Shines" - probably the favourite Bing record of thousands of people. As with all these songs, an attractive, almost idealistic, lyrics, and beautiful melodies! The album set is extremely well-mannered, too, containing as it does "Please" and "Thanks". If it hadn't upset the chronological aspect of the albums perhaps it would have been nice to have started with the former - and ended with the latter.

+ + +

+ Mention must be made, too, of the most attractive "packing". A really high-class, dignified, example. It contains many rare shots of the young Bing, beautifully reproduced. Authentic career-notes, and full details as to accompaniments, films, - and even the actual running-time of each track. With 32 tracks was there ever such value for 58s? And in case, when you study the sleeve you fancy you've been overdoing it in some direction, the recording dates are inserted American-style, i.e. the month comes before the day! So that 9/16/32 really means the 16th September, 1932.

+ + +

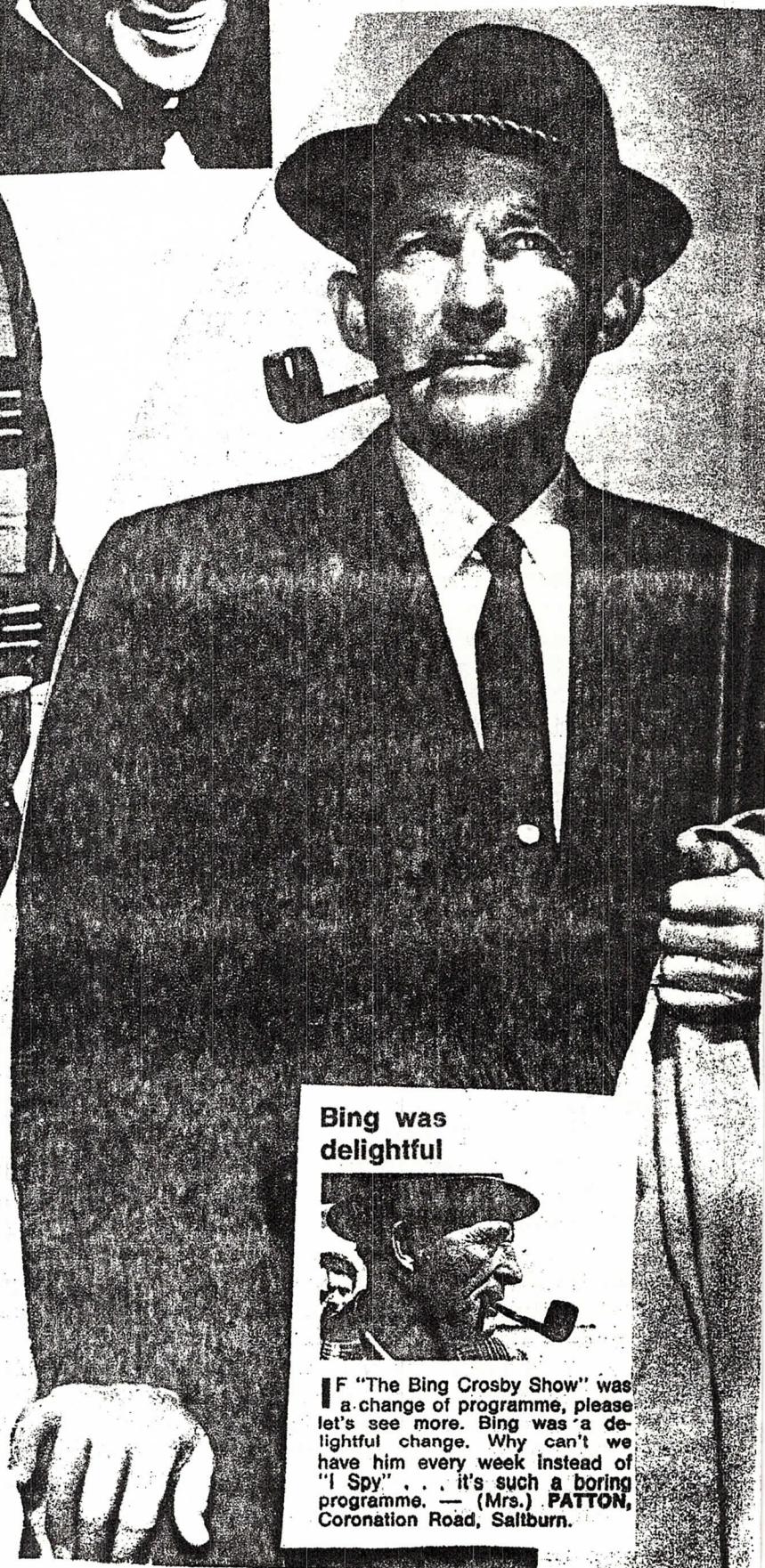
+ "The Road to Rio" was great to see again. Not only did we see Bing in that most favourite of all ball-room fashion, white jacket and dark trousers, standing in front of a band, but a "personal" performance of "You Don't Have To Know The Language." And what a performance! I gather the youngsters were all talking about it next day - even the calf-length skirts of the Andrews Sisters seemed to go unnoticed by the small fry in that electrifying scene. One risks being branded as a die-hard "has been", but I'm compelled to ask: where, or in what, can you see the like today?

+ + +

+ So I begin to run out of my allotted space once again, and I feel I haven't really begun. I was struck by the kindly thought of so many readers to send me a postcard from their holiday bases. It was nice of them to think of me - all I can hope is that they weren't on holiday when we had those catastrophic rain-storms. I have still to go - in August - but the only reason I really like holidays is that I may be lucky and come across a "new" junk-shop, or even a "new" album that I unaccountably missed! One final thought: mainly in answer to Les Gaylor: I'm as alarmed as everyone else about the continued delay of Bing's "Thoroughly Modern..." but even when it's issued in America, how will it be issued here? Pickwick, the company concerned, issue here only the cheap Allegro label. Bing's new one is the full newly-recorded prize, naturally, so - how will we see it? Cheerio, my friends, until October.



I AM an older member of the jet set—but next month—but Bing Crosby in A Little Bit of Irish (ITV) proved that my judgment hasn't failed; he's a superb singer and actor and still "top of the pops" for me!
—Mrs. M. Allan, Stratford-street, Glasgow.



Bing Crosby stepped up to a microphone and made a nation-wide hit

TEN

Here, according to TAM (Television Audience Measurements Ltd.), are the ten most popular programmes in the North East area for the week ending June 9:

- | | |
|--|----|
| 1 Film Premier (The Jayhawkers) | 60 |
| 2 International Football (BBC 1) | 58 |
| 3 Take Your Pick | 51 |
| The Big Show | 51 |
| 5 The Saint | 49 |
| The Bing Crosby Show | 49 |
| 7 Late Night Cinema (Cat Girl) | 46 |
| The Saturday Film (The Intimate Stranger) | 46 |
| Armchair Theatre (The Three Wives of Felix Hull) | 46 |
| 10 News At Ten (Thursday, June 6) | 44 |

Bing was delightful



IF "The Bing Crosby Show" was a change of programme, please let's see more. Bing was a delightful change. Why can't we have him every week instead of "I Spy" . . . it's such a boring programme. — (Mrs.) PATTON, Coronation Road, Saltburn.

 * LETTERBOX --- *
 * presenting a selection of your own news and views *
 * received since the last issue --- *

JACK DOUGAN, Co Down, N. Ireland
 "Many thanks for the photo of Bing and Michael Holliday which I have had framed. I'm hoping to add 100 Bing's to my collection shortly, this is the result of my answering an advert in the N.M.E. recently."

Mrs Fell, Sunderland, Co Durham, England
 "I was pleased to read about the Convention in our local papers and both my husband and I want to become club members. Enjoyed the meeting very much and will be arranging a meeting at our house sometime in the future".

THOMAS COLMAN, Manchester, England
 My wife and I were sorry we couldn't get to the meeting, but I will explain that we are both Manchester United fans and we went to Wembley on May 29th to see our team win the European Cup and on the Sunday we were both invited to a Silver Wedding party. I should also mention that our nephew Eddie Colman played for Manchester United and he was killed in the Munich air disaster in 1958, his pal Bobby Charlton is a great friend of ours, so I hope you will understand why we didn't get to this meeting, but we will certainly come to the next one. My wife had the pleasure of hearing you on the radio introducing Bing's tape to the meeting".

JIM SAVAGE, Guisborough, Yorks, England
 "Because I have great difficulty in getting around I was unable to travel to the Convention, but I would like you to know that if the time becomes available my wife and I would like you to visit with us. I have a very varied Crosby collection, and also 330 albums of great artists of the 30's and 40's"

ELSIE KENNEDY, Herts, England.
 "I expect you heard the recent programme on BBC radio in honour of Irving Berlin's birthday. I thought it was a great pity that the two songs that were sung by Bing in the films were sung by other people on that occasion, but nevertheless it was an enjoyable programme, and what we did get of Bing was great - of course"

HARRY FULMER, Mahwah, N.J. USA
 Reading about all the club activity in England makes me wish I lived nearer to you so that I could join in. Bing is being featured extensively on albums over here just now and it makes Crosby collectors very proud to see him so active on the scene - I'm pleased with my personal collection, and like you, can't get a complete one as there is always something to keep trying for - still, it's a lot of fun trying".

TONY BULMER, Yorkshire, England
 I have just bought STEP TO THE REAR and the MFP album BING AND LOUIS, both very good and I am pleased Bing has released this single because this is the type of music which will bring him back to the public's eye, and once he's there, with their attention, he can sing all of his other wonderful songs. I know this is true because when I talk to people I know, my uncles etc, they all like Bing but don't buy his records because they don't know he still makes them. We should all do our best at all times to see Bing gets all the publicity he deserves."

EILEEN KNIGHT, West Bromwich, England
 Bought the Hallmark album CROSBY CLASSICS for only 13/11, isn't a bad record either. Reg Bristo kindly loaned me the cutting on the club from the Daily Mirror, very good. I can't quite see how I fit into the "fatherly group" though - Had a bob on Bing's horse on Derby day, nearly came off too".

FRED REYNOLDS, Birmingham 25, England
 "I see they have issued BING SINGS WHILST BREGMAN SWINGS on the MFP label (minus two songs) Also I understand that EL SENOR BING will be re-issued on that label"

FRANK ASHURST, Wigan, Lancs, England
 "I'm disappointed the meeting with John Scott Trotter fell through, I would have liked to have met him. Saw him in the film on TV recently RHYTHM ON THE RIVER and he seemed to be a very nice person"

BRENDA MILES, Surrey, England.

"Many thanks for keeping me informed regarding the Derby, I thought the little stamp you sent was a lovely idea and look forward to getting personal supplies of these. I was very pleased to receive a copy of BING AND OTHER THINGS from Fred Romary last week".

ROY & DENISE CLARK, Yorks, England
The club plaque sounds splendid and will be just the thing for our new house, so will you please put us down for one when they are ready."

DEREK PARKES, Wiltshire, England.
With the general improvement in my well-being and things in general I find my interest in Bing is returning to it's former prominence - even to the extent of reading many of the back magazines which I had neglected. I fully realise that I have lost touch with things mainly through my own indisposition and the associated apathy, but I would appreciate being brought up to date".

Mrs Embleton, Newcastle 6, England.
"Although I am aged 78 I am still a great fan of Bing's, and I am sending the cutting about the club to my son, also a Bing fan, and now living in Cumberland. I don't mind telling you there was always dead silence in the house when Bing was on and I remember my favourite film very well, it was PENNIES FROM HEAVEN"

Mr E ROBINSON, Cheshire, England.
The photos and letters from Bing in the last issue were very good. Could you tell me if it's possible to get a copy of Bing's book CALL ME LUCKY, I would also like to purchase the club tie and blazer badge."

MARGARET UNSWORTH, Herts, England.
I recently bought Bing's album BING SINGS FOR CHILDREN, and also the single STEP TO THE REAR, and as always think they are the tops. I have also tried to get the RARE STYLE album but up to now no luck, but will keep on trying.

LESLIE CLARKE, Liverpool 4, England.
I enclose the necessary sub and wish to become a member of the International Crosby Circle."

ALF FARROW, Hull, Yorks, England.

"Looking round a local record shop for the Ace of Hearts section, which had been moved, I asked the lady in charge where they were, and also mentioned Bing. She told me that due to a sale they were having the Ace of Hearts section was on the floor in a box. 'okay' says I., 'I will find'. I found and as I was searching, a voice said in my ear, 'Did I hear you mention Bing Crosby?', Says I 'Yes', says he 'Do you belong to the ICC?', says I 'Yes', says he 'Are you Alf Farrow?', says I 'Yes' says he 'I am Vic Gilmore, 'well blow me down' says I, it's a small world. He took my name and address with a view to meeting again and hurried off to an appointment".

ELIZABETH BAILEY, Whitley Bay, N. England
I'm sorry I lost touch after the split in the Society, I intended to write long ago but never seemed to get round to it, then my friend Winn Hall saw the article about the Convention and I thought it would be nice to write and wish the event good luck - Please give your members the best wishes of the Elvis Presley club on the first of what we hope will be many conventions".

STEVE MASON, New York, USA

Had an interesting chat with Larry Crosby last week, it seems Bing is taking a short vacation down in Baja, California, he has quite a season ahead. You're solid if you have a Library of Congress number and I feel you should attempt a proper backing to publish as a full magazine and obtain newstand coverage. There was some talk of a European concert tour but the almighty dollar wasn't quite right. Maybe I'll reconsider, I don't know just now".

RON DANIELS, Elizabeth West, S. Australia
I expect you have already heard from other South Australian's of the coverage given to Bing's birthday on May 2nd by one of our local commercial radio stations. RADIO 5DN Adelaide really went overboard and featured Bing on record and tape interviews for the whole 24 hours. It was just like the old days hearing Bing come over the radio at frequent intervals during the day. Something only too rare these days I'm afraid".

BERNARD Mc GRATH, Dublin, Eire.

A few years ago I recall seeing a film titled DOWN MEMORY LANE which contained a number of the Mack Sennett shorts that Bing made in the early 30's. The recent club issues certainly point out the advantages of belonging to the ICC and I wish the club continued success.

FRANK WINTERBINE, Heidelberg, Australia.
"I have just bought the club tie through my close friend Keith Hyde and am now awaiting the arrival of the blazer badge. I saw the reference to RUSS COLUMBO in the last issue of the magazine and would mention I have for many years been trying to get early issues of him, maybe some of the club members can pass on some information regarding Russ."

VIC GILMORE, Hull, Yorks, England.
I've just obtained the CBS set BING CROSBY IN HOLLYWOOD 1930-1934 and am delighted - what else could I be? - I'm not complaining, but I do wish they'd issue some LP including some of the numbers that always seem to be missing, ie, Shadows on the Window, Cabin in the Pines, Cabin in the Cotton, Brother can you spare a Dime, Waltzing in a dream, Shadow waltz, Shadows of Love, Just a Gigalo, etc etc. I was pleased to note the issue of the MINI-DISCOGRAPHY and enclose my order for same. As you mention in your notes, I am one of those 'collectors' to whom matrix numbers, label information etc is of no great consequence or importance, and the fact that in one recording Bing may alter or add, an odd word here and there, does not bother me in the least. I'm content just to hear him singing, that is the most important aspect of the voice of Bing. the Mini-Discography will therefore, as you say, provide a very handy reference as and when required."

BOB ROBERTS, Kent, England.
Many thanks for the convention clippings you did a good job re the publicity and Vera and I reckon you'll need a bigger house next year!!! I was pleased we were able to get together for a short while during your recent visit to London and hope in the future you'll have more time and be able to visit with us at Kent".

CHARLIE TUPPER, Surrey, England.

I am writing to thank Alma and your goodself for the wonderful hospitality over the weekend, plus the company which made the trip North so very worthwhile. The press coverage was great and the meeting went with a real swing. the write-ups can do nothing but good for the ICC. Hope you had a good journey down to Whytleafe and that you didn't get lost. You would pick Derby Day. I was on duty at South Croydon so I thought of you as you would pass through on your way. Hope you connected with Bob and Vera at Victoria Station as arranged".

BRIAN PATTINSON, Dunstan, England.
The recent Reprise tracks LIVE A LITTLE and DON'T LET A GOOD THING GET AWAY are to be released soon. Reprise of USA wrote me saying they are putting together an LP of Bing's newest recordings to be released this year. Have sent cards off to 25 DJ's this week to plug Bing's records - must keep the flag flying high at all times. Am also in touch with the Daily Express and I am doing a story on Bing which I hope they will use in due course. I expect you will shortly be hearing from RADIO MAURITOUS as a mate of mine serving out there has received my spare copy of the Australian EP and took it along to the radio broadcasting people to play. he has told me that it was played twice that week, namely ALOHA MEANS I LOVE YOU."

Mrs M SKISKEY, Essex, England.
I was pleased to learn about the ICC through the Woman's Star Service and enclose the enrolment fee to become a member".

PETER ROBINSON. Exeter, Devon, England.
The Mini-Discography is an excellent idea, especially for people like me who cannot afford to pay the now high prices for the Road to Bing Crosby series".

AUDREY GUNSON, Cockerham, England
Would you please send details of your Bing Crosby club for my husband and son (aged 9) who will be Bing's youngest fan".

Mr C ADCOCK, Flintshire, N, Wales
As a lifelong devotee of Bing Crosby I would appreciate details of your Bing club in order that I can be put in touch with other Crosby admirers, especially in order to trade Bing's records."

Mr E ROBINSON, Blackpool, England.
Could you please send me club details and also how can I buy the club tie and blazer badge".

DON LOVE, Cheshunt, Herts, England.
I particularly liked the front cover on the last issue of the magazine with the cover photo of Kathryn, Bing and yourself and I only hope that one of these days I shall be fortunate enough to meet the 'master'. I see that Michael Crampton mentions an LP titled AN AXE, AN APPLE AND A BUCKSKIN JACKET, but I haven't been able to find out anything further about it, can any member help out here with information. - My Crosby collection is slowly mounting, 112 LP's, 30-45's and 661-78's and I'm awaiting a further 12 78's in the post."

SAM BEATTIE, Bolton, Lancs, England
Please count me in for a club plaque as I'm looking forward very much to having one of these unique souvenirs - I had a letter recently from fellow club member Arnold Record re information on Kathryn's book - very nice too".

Mr J COLLEDGE, Sheffield, England
Being a longtime fan of Bing Crosby I was most interested to read the article in the Daily Mail this week. The article though said that his records are seldom played on the radio these days, but whose are now except the pop groups in these days of television. Brought up as I was on 78's of Bing I was very pleased to be able to obtain the Ace of Hearts collection of songs from the early 30's, if only because my 78's are beginning to wear - incidentally does your organisation produce a list of Crosby recordings with dates recorded?"

Mr T TAYLOR, West Hartlepool, England
Will you please make me a member of the International Crosby Circle, thanking you for your interesting telephone conversation recently".

CHARLES LEDWITCH, Dundee, Scotland
I heard you being interviewed on the BBC program TODAY. You came over very well".

Mr G RICHARDS, Goole, Yorks, England
With reference to the article in the Daily Mail I would appreciate it if you would send me details of the Crosby club.

JOSEPH CLEARY, Dublin 12, Eire.
I have just read an account of the annual convention of the ICC and am very interested in becoming a member. I have been a fan of Bing's for more years than I care to remember and would like details of the blazer badge and tie. Incidentally with a name like yours you must have Irish blood somewhere along the line".

PETER CARPENTER, Middlesex, England.
Just a few lines to congratulate you on the terrific feat of appearing on the BBC TODAY programme, this was also repeated on Saturday PICK OF THE WEEK, Well done - this was a very sturdy achievement".

TITUS GOMES, London, England
I was pleasantly surprised to learn of the Bing Crosby club on the TODAY programme, Being a Crosby fan of some 20 years standing I wish to be enrolled as a club member".

Mrs Mc NAMARA, Leeds 12, England
I recently mentioned to Mr Crampton that I was having great difficulty in obtaining a copy of Bing's recording of BLUE PRELUDE - he has now taped this item along with some other Crosby gems and I'm very grateful to him - when you have further news of the ICC wall plaque please let me know as I would like one".

GEORGE O' REILLY, Dublin, Eire.
I want to thank you most sincerely for including my photo with Bing on the cover of the last issue of the club magazine, I assure you that I do not deserve such a fine tribute to my humble efforts on behalf of Bing, and also for his friends and admirers throughout these islands but nevertheless I am extremely grateful for the honour you have done me.

ERNEST WELCH, Middlesex, England
I wish I lived nearer in order to be able to attend the club's frequent get-togethers, however, never be stranded in London, you will always be welcome at the above address".

BING "CROSBY SHOPPE"
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Mr A Wicks, 1 Kynegills Road, Weeke, Winchester, Hants was recently advised by British Decca to contact the club to see if we could help him obtain a copy of the Columbia record BROTHER CAN YOU SPARE A DIME - at the time of writing we do not hold a dupe - can anyone help Mr Wicks?

Brian Pattinson, 103 Ravensworth Road, Dunstan, Co Durham, offers the following Bing Crosby records - best offers obtain these mint condition discs:-

SHILLELAGHS AND SHAMROCKS LP LAT8106. NEW TRICKS LP LAT 8217.
SONGS I WISH I HAD SUNG THE FIRST TIME AROUND LP LAT 8138
RETURN TO PARADISE ISLANDS LP Reprise 6106
THE YOUNG BING CROSBY LP RCA 27075
SOME FINE OLD CHESTNUTS EP Vol 2 OE9010
Reprise Repertory Theatre LP F 2018
Bing sings only one song YOUNGER THAN SPRINGTIME
Reprise Repertory Theatre LP F 2015
Bing sings only one song SOMETHING SORTA GRANDISH

oOo

Roger Hambleton 51 Westfield, Leek, Staffs, requires soundtrack items from a host of Bing Crosby films, and we recommend that Roger and any other members requiring these should look no further than the BOB ROBERTS tape service on the previous page - Roger also requires musical excerpts from British musicals such as The Street Singer in LONDON MELODY, also known as LIMELIGHT, and LISBON STORY with Patricia Burke. also musical excerpts from the American films of GLORIA JEAN, ALLAN JONES, DEANNA DURBIN, etc - Roger is willing to copy from his personal collection of 30's and 40's films - ALICE FAYE etc.

oOo

Mr A Cope is anxious to obtain a copy of Bing's Brunswick record of IT HAD TO BE YOU - if you can help, please direct your replies to St Michael's, Bolton-le-Sands, Nr Carnforth, Lancs.

oOo

Mr E Robinson 15 Douglas Road, Adswold, Stockport, Cheshire wants to buy a copy of Bing's autobiography CALL ME LUCKY - can anyone help this new member?.

oOo

JOHNNY JONES (address in list of officers) can now accept orders (pre-paid) for the following:-

THE ICC WALL PLAQUE - price 38/- (USA 6 dollars)
The ICC BLAZER BAG (price on application)
BING CROSBY PERSONAL STAMPS
these terrific stamps are self adhesive and the same size
as postage stamps - a very attractive way of plugging
Bing and making your letters and envelopes look more
attractive - price 16/- per Hundred (100) USA 2dollars 50cents
THE ICC CLUB TIE (blue with very attractive club motif
price 17/6 - USA 2dollars 50cents

oOo

* THE INTERNATIONAL CROSBY CIRCLE - MINI-BING CROSBY DISCOGRAPHY *
* A complete listing of every commercially issued *
* Bing Crosby recordings from 1926 to 1968 *
* *
* AVAILABLE NOW 7/6 -(One Dollar USA) *
* order direct from Frank Murphy *

NB

Ref the ICC Mini-discography members are advised that the first 250 copies issued will have a suburb glossy cover photo courtesy of Fred Romary - in the event of this first issue being a sellout via the joint magazines "BING" and "THE GOLDEN YEARS (joint circulation now in excess of 400 copies each quarter) - a plain cover issue will be made available - early application is therefore advised.

Your offers are invited for the following - closing date November 1st - winners notified - please list only the number in the left hand column* and send your offers direct to Frank Murphy - record winners will be asked to supply a strong box. All EX condition unless G for Good stated.

- * 1..DB1829 Brother can you spare a dime/Home on the range
- 2..DB1845 Shine/Some of these days
- 3..DB1894 The last round-up/Someone stole Gabriels horn
- 4..DB1971 Paradise/My honey's lovin' arms
- 5..DB2027 Young and healthy/Lazy day
- 6..DB2059 Love thy neighbor/May I
- 7..01155 Were you sincere/Just one more chance
- 8..01166 Out of nowhere/If you should ever need me
- 9..01596 Thanks/Black moonlight-G
- 10.. 1380 Here lies love/Please-G
- 11..02973 The moon and the willow tree/Too romantic
- 12..02653 Mr Gallagher and Mr Sheen/Small fry-G
- 13..02270 I'm an old cowhand/Empty saddles-G
- 14..02805 I cried for you/Stardust-G
- 15..02315 Where the blue of the night/Dancing in the dark
- 16..02443 Sweet Leilani/In a little hula heaven
- 17..02849 I'm falling in love with someone/Gipsy love song
- 18..02054 Silent night/Adeste fidelis
- 19..02316 Let's call a heart a heart/Pennies from heaven-G
- 20..02663 Swing low sweet chariot/Darling nellie gray-G
- 21..02974 Between 18th and 19th on Chestnut Str/Sweet potato piper-G
- 22..02412 Sweet Leilani/The one rose-G
- 23..02444 Blue Hawaii/Sweet is the word for you
- 24..02484 Can I forget you/The folks who live on the hill
- 25..02808 I surrender dear/To you sweet heart
- 26..03672 All by myself/You keep coming back like a song
- 27..03646 Sioux city sue/You sang my love song to somebody else
- 28..03569 There's a fellow waiting in Poughkeepsie/Ac-cent-thu-ate the positive
- 29..03932 The kiss in your eyes/The friendly mountains
- 30..03775 A gal in calico/Oh but I do
- 31..03882 My girls an Irish girl/Galway bay
- 32..03802 My heart is a hobo/Smile right back at the sun
- 33..03753 McNamara's band/Dear old Donegal
- 34..03385 I'll capture your heart/Lazy-G
- 35..03587 You belong to my heart/Baia
- 36..03618 It's been a long long time/Whose dream are you
- 37..03597 You've got me where you want me/Ya ta ta ya ta ta
- 38..03889 Laroo laroo lilli bolero/Dance ballerina dance
- 39..03809 Anything you can do/Show business
- 40..03636 In the land of beginning again Aren't you glad your you
- 41..03604 Welcome to my dreams/It's anybody's spring
- 42..03635 The bells of St Mary's/I'll take you home again Kathleen
- 43..03939 Mighty lak' a rose/The sweetest story ever told
- 44..03967 Anniversary song/Suspence
- 45..03882 At the flying W/A hundred and sixty acres
- 46..03813 South America take it away/Feudin' and fightin'
- 47..03547 It could happen to you/The day after forever
- 48..03390 Conchita Marquita Lopez/The singing sands of Alamosa
- 49..03382 Easter Parade/Abraham
- 50..03384 White Christmas/Let's start the New Year right
- 51..03313 Blues in the night/Deep in the heart of Texas
- 52..03485 Sunday Monday or always/If you please-G
- 53..03350 On behalf of the visiting firemen/The lamplighters serenade

- 54..03801 Country style/As long as I'm dreaming
 55..03775 A gal in calico/Oh but I do
 56..03782 When Irish eyes are smiling/Danny boy
 57..03031 I hav'nt time to be a milli naire/April played the fiddle
 58..03087 Only forever/When the moon comes over Madison Square
 59..03080 Dinah/Shoe shine boy-G
 60..03708 People will say we're in love/Oh what a beautiful morning
 61..03700 Blue skies/I've got my captain working for me now
 62..03185 Birds of a feather/You're dangerous
 63..03534 Going my way/Swinging on a star
 64..03783 Alexanders ragtime band/The Spaniard who blighted my life
 65..03171 San Antonio rose/Mister Meadowlark
 66..03411 Ain't got a dime to my name/Cinstantly
 67..03837 Apalachicola FLA/You don't have to know the language
 68..03589 A friend of yours/Just a prayer away
 69..03554 Too ra loo ra loo ral/Let me love you tonight
 70..03533 Amor amor/I'll be seeing you
 71..03744 Your socks don't match/My baby said yes
 72..03410 The road to Morocco/Moonlight becomes you
 73..03381 Happy holiday/Be careful it's my heart
 74..03565 The three caballeros/Don't fence me in-G
 75..03010 Tumbling tumbleweeds/If I knew then-G
 76..03929 Silent night holy night/Adeste fidelis-G
 77..03184 You lucky people you/It's always you-G
 78..03651 Did your mother come from Ireland/Where the river Shannon flows
 79..03151 Ballad for Americans - parts one and two
 80..03152 Ballad for Americans - parts three and four

 81..04622 And you'll be home/Accidents will happen-G
 82..04346 Christmas Carols - parts one and two-G
 83..04981 Zing a little zong(side two non-Bing
 84..04553 Sam's song/So tall a tree
 85..04337 Oh tis sweet to think/The Donovan's
 86..04900 The Isle of Innisfree/At last at last
 87..04035 Tarra ta lara ta lar/Far away place
 88..You're in love with someone/Top O' the morning-04339
 89..04114 Hasta Manana/Siboney
 90..04292 Let's take the long way home/The waltz you saved for me
 91..05035 The Road to Bali/The merry go run around
 92..05173 I whistle a happy tune/Getting to know you
 93..05203 The magic window/If it's all the same to you
 94..04108 Clementine/The old oaken bucket
 95..04098 Riders in the sky/Careless hands
 96..04070 If you stub your toe on the moon/Once and for always
 97..04420 Dear hearts and gentle people/Mule train
 98..04984 The live oak tree/I'll si si ya in bahia
 99..04749 Here ends the rainbow/Quizas quizas quizas
 100..04483 Someplace on anywhere road/Sure thing
 101..04613 Life is so peculiar/High on the list-G
 102..Your own little house/Bonne nuit-04761
 103..04760 Misto Christofo Columbo/In the cool cool cool of the evening
 104..04442 Chattanooga shoe shine boy/Sorry-G
 105..05182 Mademoiselle de Parce (single sided pink label demonstration disc)
 106..05035 Merry go run around (demonstration sample disc - single sided pink label)
 107..05033 To see you is to love you (single sided pink label demonstration sample)
 108..R8504 I love you whoever you are/Never be afraid
 109..14645 True love/Well did you evah
 110..14643 Now you has jazz (side two non Bing)

- 111..20402, EP - Aloha means I love you/The music of home/It's a good day/The new ashmolian marching society band
- 112..LA8740, LP-Bing The Early 30's Vol One (10")
Out of nowhere/If you should ever need me/Just one more chance/
Now that you're gone/I found a million dollar baby/I'm thru with
love/Goodnight sweetheart/Too late.
- 113..L.8714 LP The Country Girl and Little Boy Lost - (10")

114..THE INCREDIBLE CROSBY, a 295 page biography by Barry Ulanov - mint

the following are offered in three individual sets comprising of
three different magnificent full colour American movie posters

115.. THE BELLS OF ST MARY'S-HIGH SOCIETY-WHITE CHRISTMAS

116..WHITE CHRISTMAS-HIGH TIME-LITTLE BOY LOST

117.. WHITE CHRISTMAS-HIGH TIME-WHITE CHRISTMAS(different poster)

118.. One set of 5 extra large American colour photos of THE BELLS OF ST MARY'S

119.. One set of 3 extra large American colour photos, one each from ANYTHING
GOES-RIDING HIGH-MAN ON FIRE

120.. ICC Vol 7 - 7"LP pressing THE TV MR BING featuring Bing as guest on
THE DEAN MARTIN and ANDY WILLIAMS shows.

members are reminded that all offers from items numbered 1 to 120
should reach Frank Murphy by the closing date of November 1st

* THE PETER WILSON COLUMN *
* direct from Middlesbrough in the North of England *

It's "BING" time again, and this time I'm looking forward to a bumper edition covering the club meeting at North Shields on May 26th - I had looked forward to the event for weeks and yet it seemed to flash by. It was great being among so many other admirers of the 'old Groaner', the only familiar names to me were John Maughan and Michael Crampton, but meeting them personally was very interesting as they certainly seem to know their 'Crosby'.

The CROSBY ROOM is a haven for any Bing fan, what with the huge collection of records and the masses of photos, I could spend a fortnight in that room and still have to be dragged out - actually there was so much I wanted to talk about and the great pity was that the time we had together seemed to flash by - One thing I did notice when I entered the CROSBY ROOM and that was the number of young members for I had thought that most Crosby fans were over the 30 mark, it's nice to know that the beat groups don't have it all their own way - before winding up on the meeting I'd like to add a word of praise for Mrs Murphy who worked so hard during the day making sure that nobody went hungry - Now for my current dairy of events-

April 2nd-MUDDY WATER 3rd-GALWAY BAY 14th-film-HOLIDAY INN.BBC 1 18th-BEAUTIFUL DREAMER 23rd-GONE FISHIN' 25th-DINAH 26th-Singalong selection

May 8th-AROUND THE WORLD 12th-MAY I 15th-film-SAYONE FOR ME. BBC 2 16th-WHITE CHRISTMAS 20th-BUSY DOING NOTHIN' 26th-MOONLIGHT BAY 28th-LAZY 29-TEDDY BEARS PICNIC

June 5th-film-RHYTHM ON THE RIVER. BBC 2 6th-THE BING CROSBY SHOW. ITV
9th-TEAMWORK and THE ROAD TO MOROCCO 23rd-THE ROAD TO RIO. BBC 1.

Phew!!! Bing's making a name for himself - over to you for this time - best regards to all - Peter Wilson

continuing BING "CROSBY SHOPPE"

The following items have just come into the club bank. The numbering follows on automatically from item number 120 and the same closing dates for offers direct to Frank Murphy apply.

- 121.. THE ROAD TO BING CROSBY - Vol 2-a complete Bing Crosby discography from August 1934 to September 1943
- 122.. THE ROAD TO BING CROSBY - Vol 4-a complete Bing Crosby discography from April 1951 to May 1966
- 123.. F21452(45) Let's not be sensible/Teamwork
- 124.. WB83(45) The little drummer boy/I wish you a Merry Christmas
- 125.. 05928(45) Where the blue of the night/Goodnight sweetheart
- 126.. PB921(45) I could'nt care less/Say one for me
- 127..R20217(45) The oldest established/Fugue for tin horns
- 128..R30018(45) Return to paradise/The hukilau song/Frnagipani blossom/Home in Hawaii
- 129..R30039(45) Mister Booze/Style - two other songs non-Bing
- 130..OE9293(45) Thanks for the memory/Blues in the night/Mona Lisa/Memories are made of this.
- 131..OE9466(45) Something in common/Look at your heart/Suddenly there's a valley/Moments to remember
- 132..OE9103(45) The peace prayer of St Francis/The blessing of St Francis

The following are all 78's - all ex condition unless G for good stated.

- 133..DB2056 Temptation/Thanks
- 134..DB2059 Love thy neighbour/May I
- 135..DB2085 Street of dreams/Black moonlight
- 136..DB1985 Try a little tenderness/How deep is the ocean
- 137..14761 Man on fire/Seven nights a week
- 138..02320 Song of the islands/Aloha OE
- 139..02787 That sly old gentleman/Hang your heart on a hickory limb
- 140..02492 Basin Street blues/Bob White
- 141..02923 Mexicali rose/Take me back to my boots and saddle-G
- 142..02753 Little Sir Echo/The lonesome road
- 143..02978 The singing hills/Devil may care-G
- 144..02761 Sweethearts/Ah sweet mystery of life
- 145..02881 Ciribiribin/Yodelin jive
- 146..02317 One two button your shoe/Sò do I
- 147..02806 My melancholy baby/Just one more chance
- 148..02054X Silent night/Adeste fidelis
- 149..02900 If I had my way/Wrap your troubles in dreams
- 150..03647 Strange music/I love you-G
- 151..03300 You are my sunshine/Day dreaming-G
- 152..03902 Kentucky babe/Whiffenpoof song
- 153..03312 Miss you/Mandy is two
- 154..03289 The anniversary waltz/The whistlers mother in law
- 155..03650 I'd rather be me/On the Atcheson Topeka and Santa Fe
- 156..03269 Birth of the blues/The waiter the porter and the upstairs maid
- 157..03092 Rhythm on the river/That's for me
- 158..03908 The Emperor waltz/I kiss your hand madame
- 159..03800 Pretending/Gotta get me somebody to love
- 160..03822 Tallahassee/Go West young man
- 161..03758 September song/I can't believe that you're in love with me
- 162..03010 Tumbling tumbleweeds/If I knew then
- 163..03019 You are my hearts delight/Beautiful dreamer-G
- 164..03539 Is you is or is you ain't my baby/Long ago and far away-G
- 165..03073 Trade winds/Can't get Indiana off my mind
- 166..03779 Among my souvenirs/Temptation-G
- 167..03079 The touch of your lips/The very thought of you

- 168..03863 You do/How soon
- 169..03596 June comes around every year/Out of this world-G
- 170..03494 Vict'ry polko/Pistol packin' mama-G
- 171..03396 It must be true/Be honest with me-G
- 172..03634 Good good good/Along the Navajo trail
- 173..03624 Symphony/I can't begin to tell you
- 174..03603 Would you/My mothers waltz-G
- 175..03596 June comes around every year/Out of this world
- 176..03355 Blue shadows and white gardenias/Sing me a song of the islands
- 177..03965 I've love to live in loveland/A fella with an umbrella

- 178..04346 Christmas Carols part one and two
- 179..04841 Domino/Country style-G
- 180..04781 Gone fishin'/Moonlight bay
- 181..04482 Sunshine cake/The horse told me-G
- 182..04489 Ask me no questions/Lock stock and barrel
- 183..04497 You're wonderful/It's more fun than a picnic
- 184..04509 Ichabod - part two and three
- 185..04442 Chattanooga she shine boy/Sorry
- 186..04534 Home cookin'/Katrina
- 187..04527 If I loved you/A bluebird singing in my heart
- 188..04425 Eileen/How can you buy Killarney
- 189..04139 Everywhere you go/How it lies how it lies how it lies
- 190..04454 Quicksilver/Have I told you lately that I love you
- 191..04672 Sentimental music/Sparrow in the treetop
- 192..04660 Why can't you behave/So in love
- 193..04623 This is the time/Beyond the reef
- 194..04602 Autumn leaves/Harbour lights
- 195..04581 The teddy bears picnic/Rudolph the red nosed reindeer
- 196..04606 All my love/It's a marshmallow world

- 197..05674 Around the world- side two non-Bing
- 198..05016 Experience/Personality
- 199..05104 If I were a bell/I've never been in love before
- 200..05543 In a little Spanish town/Ol' man river
- *201..05410 Stranger in paradise/Who gave you the roses

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Members are reminded that when making bids - please list only the number in the left hand column*

OVERSEAS CORRESPONDENTS FILE IMPORTANT NEWS-ITEMS TO CLUB H.Q. IN ENGLAND

Acknowledgment must be gratefully made to SAMUEL STERNBERG in ISRAEL and FRED ROMARY in THE UNITED STATES for two valuable booklets received recently - first was a very informative biography of Bing by THE ENCYCLOPEDIA BRITANNICA, 425 North Michigan Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60611, USA from their library research service, nothing we don't already know about the maestro but because they laid the whole thing out so nicely it's well worth adding to the club files. Second up is another fascinating booklet FILMS IN REVIEW, (all comms to 31 Union Square, New York, NY 10003, USA,) printed on glossy paper and containing a host of great shots, many of them rare photos, of the maestro, also a full listing of Bing's movies including some short films which we reckon will surprise many members who didn't know Bing had even made them

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 ** BING AT GONZAGA UNIVERSITY **
 ** ===== **
 ** "Spireside" bulletin of **
 ** Gonzaga University **
 ** Spring 1968 **
 ** ***** **
 ** ===== **

Direct from DON DENNEY in
 Spokane, Washington we are
 proud to be able to bring you
 further exclusive news on this
 memorable event.

SENT-TI-MENTAL JOUR-R-NEY HOME.....PARENTS, BING RETURN FOR HAPPY WEEKEND

Parents week '68 is n w but a reverie. But what a teaming reverie. The parents again brought to the campus, March 8-10, a radiant warmth that is kindled only by the parent-child relationship. If that had been all, the weekend would have been memorable. But there was more. There were dividends that made the '68 weekend outstanding.

Regent Harry L. Bing Crosby '24, together with his three children, came to the campus to present a microfilm research centre to the Crosby Library which Bing built and dedicated in 1957. It was more than a gift bearing trip for Bing, however; it was above all, a sentimental journey. He stopped to conjure with boyhood memories in front of the old family home on Sharp, a stone's throw from the main entrance of the University, he visited with college friends, among them Fr Dussault, who charmed the Crosby children with his sleight-of-hand, and Fr Corkery, a patient at the time in Sacred Heart Hospital; he reminisced and he visited the old mill pond near the campus where he had swum as a kid.

Mingling among the parents and the students, Bing had a hand and a smile for everyone; he walked the campus, his eyes noting the new, recognizing the old; he went to a special parents performance of MY FAIR LADY and said to Fr Leary "This is a damn fine show"

It is a tribute to the months of quiet planning of Charles Steilen, director of development, that Parents Weekend seemed to play itself without a script. Informality, the kind born of long association and kindred ideals suffused the days, and Bing Crosby, in gray slacks and checkered sport coat, carried the melody. The three Crosby children, Harry 11, 9, Mary Frances, 8, and Nathaniel, 6, established themselves quickly and firmly in the hearts of the parents. Mrs Crosby, busy with a play in Florida, did not accompany the family.

A dozen company officials were on hand to hear Donald W McArthur, vice president of the microfilm products division of the huge organisation, turn the equipment over to Regent Crosby. Bing in turn, in the cap and gown of his honorary doctorate of music, conferred upon him here in 1937, turned the gift over to the university.

Bing's reminiscences and his stories about his children, who were seated with their uncle Ted, in the front row, were greeted with enthusiasm. Bing spoke with out notes but not without the informal facility, the startlingly accurate use of surprising words, that has become his trademark.

A secret guarded closely for months brought the convocation to a satisfactory and fitting end. Fr McNeil, academic vice president stood at the rostrum with a parchment. Unrolling it deliberately, he read...."Because of his sustained affection for Gonzaga University and the ideals it stands for, and because his life represents that modest triumph of grace in a mans heart, issuing in hope, optimism, laughter and self giving, we do with joy confer on our son Harry L. Bing Crosby, our most prized award, the De Smet Medal. "

Obviously moved, with the medal on his chest, Bing said "Receiving this medal gives me an opportunity to say, and really mean, that whatever I have been able to accomplish, whatever I have done, if it has been worthwhile, is directly attributable to the principles that were inculcated in me right here on this campus. I am very grateful, very pleased and very happy"

The faculty, parents, students and friends shared Bing's happiness as they filed out of the Kennedy Pavilion. The University band under the baton of Jon Nicholson filled the air with the familiar strains of WHEN THE BLUE OF THE NIGHT MEETS THE GOLD OF THE DAY.

Reveries as rich as those of Parents Weed-end are hard to come by;-LT-SJ

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Our thanks to Don Denney for another great article on Bing's memorable visit to Spokane - in the next issue we hope to print a full cover photo of Bing at the mike addressing the students and their families - this has already been returned to the USA for personal attention from Fred Romary.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR
a further slection of your newsy comments
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when writing to the editor or to any
of the clubs officers, please always
extend the courtesy of a s.a.e.
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ADRIAN FOWLER, Victoria, Australia

"Just a few lines to say how much I have enjoyed being a member of the club and am certainly pleased our mutual good friend Keith Hyde told me about the benefits to be had by enrolling"

MR R GARBUTT, York, England

I recently heard you on the radio and wonder if you could help me obtain a copy of one of Bing's best recordings DB1829 BROTHER CAN YOU SAPRE A DIME. this information has been checked for me by the BBC"

JOHN BASSETT, Essex, England

"Many thanks for the Mini-Discography. This is a fantastic catalogue and something I will always treasure. Before now I have always been in the dark about what Bing has sung and when he sung it etc, but now I know exactly where I stand as regards my own collection - My ambition in life is to collect a large library of Bing's records and this discography will be an invaluable companion and guide - I also counted all the titles, including rejects and different masters and can only make it about 1,900 at the most, can you therefore explain why it is always stated that Bing has made about 2,700 titles"?

MR E ASQUITH, Bradford 2, Yorks, England

"I hope you do not mind me writing to you at your cinema address, the reason being that I have only just found out that a Crosby fan club exists. In all ignorance I thought I was the greatest fan the great man ever had, even to the extent of being a bore to my circle of friends who by the way are all Bing fans and I am writing this letter to apply for membership and also to inform you of a little gathering that is held each Saturday night to discuss Bing and would like to say that "Crosby" as we affectionately like to call him will certainly drop one in the top twenty surely, after Louis Armstrong - I look forward to hearing from you and am sure you could start off a nice little group here"

FRED ROMARY, New York, USA

The mini discog is a beauty. Hell with the cover, it's what's inside that counts and it's damned great - loved the tape with the plug from Bing".

GORDON PHILLIPS, Victoria, Australia.

I'll be writing at length later but just had to drop a few lines to send best regards to fellow members - "Till the blue of the night etc"

MEMORIES by ALF FARROW.

I am a new member of the I.C.C. - joining last January and in my letter of application I happened to mention to Frank that I was an ex-President of the ORIGINAL BING CROSBY FRIENDSHIP CLUB which was in existence during the 30's. He invited to write down some of my memories of those days, so, here goes:-

In the early 208 metres days, which most of you will know is Radio Luxemborg, and during the early 308s, I spent most of my Sunday afternoons with my ear glued to the loudspeaker waiting for the voice of B.C. Correct me if I am wrong but I think that in those days Radio Luxemborg played more records than anything else and that is where I first had the pleasure of getting a real musical earful of Bing. Week after his voice came over and week after week I listened entranced and when the records came into the shops I would save up to buy one (save up for a 2/6d record! - sounds ridiculous don't it?), but that is what I had to do and did I treasure them? I practically kept them in cotton wool!

I also managed to buy 'Picture Show' and one week I came across a notice for members to a Bing Crosby Friendship Club. I sent for details and yes, I saved up to join! Ted Mole was the President at that time and after meeting him on one of his visits from the South, and spending an unforgettable night at another member's house I felt on top of the world. But other delights were not far away but of course, I was unaware of them.

Flo Fisher, so it seemed to me, was the real spirit behind the Club for she was a tireless worker and nothing was too much trouble for her. She used to type all the stencils for the magazine we put out every month. Every month we members in Hull gathered at Flo's to do our stint with printing, paging, addressing envelopes and discussing the while, Bings latest film or record and any other Crosby information. For several years we carried on this most interesting and satisfying pleasure. I call it pleasure, for that was surely what it was.

Then one evening in July, 1939, when we were doing our usual chores at Flo's she told us that Ted Mole was having to give up the Presidency and did she fancy doing the job? But I knew that Flo was content to be doing her usual job, so she asked me! I was speechless for a few seconds but when I got my breath back I readily accepted. Ted Mole was duly notified and I may say that he was delighted to be able to hand over to someone, especially someone in the north!

The ensuing months were very, very interesting one to me, believe me, for in answering queries from existing members and enrolling new members I was kept very busy indeed. But once I got into the swing of the job I was thoroughly enjoying it. And I found out something that I did not know before - Vera Lynn and Donny Dennis were honorary members!

Things were going swimmingly when 'BANG!'. Well you all know what happened in September 1939! I carried on during those dark days of blackouts etc., with ever increasing difficulties and when I had to go in July, 1940, my brother carried on until he was requested to report for service. I met several members during my first months in England, foremost in my thoughts is a wonderful tea at a members house in Romford!

That year will remain with me a time of extreme interest, with correspondence from the record company, Picturogoor, and also receiving still photos of Bing's films

(some of which I still possess). I felt I was helping to foster the spirit of Croobyana (of those days) and I defended the name of Bing with all my tongue could muster.

Also, during those twelve months I received three letters from Larry Crosby and one from Bing and they will not leave my possession for all the rice in China! I also have three letters from Bing received during pre-President days and to me they are priceless - the first one dated August 1, 1933 is worded:-

Dear Mr Farrow :

Bing has received your letter of recent date and he has requested me to write thanking you for your interest. Bing only hoped his future efforts will merit your attention and approval,

Cordially yours

Marie B Kelly Secty to Bing Crosby.

Another from Bing dated July 20 1936 worded:-

Dear Mr Farrow:

Thanks for your letter and interest.

I appreciate knowing how my efforts are received and welcome any suggestions.

'Rhythm on the Range' which completed, will be released this fall, and 'Pennies from Heaven' is my next. I will soon be taking a vacation from radio until fall. The photo you requested is being forwarded. Thanks again, and I hope my future efforts warrant your attention and approval, best wishes, Bing.

Yet another one from Bing dated September 17 1938 went as follows:-

Dear Mr Farrow,

It is a pleasure to fulfill your picture request in return for your kind words, and to assure you we are always open to suggestions,

We have just finished a new picture 'Paris Honeymoon'. There are some good tunes and a 'different' story. Hope you'll like it.

I plan to vacation from the Music Hall program until late in October,

Thanks for your interest. Best wishes,
Bing.

P.S. In answer to many inquiries, the book 'Bing' may be obtained through book stores or direct from Larry Crosby 9022 Sunset Boulevard, Hollywood.

These letters proved to me that Bing went to very great lengths to answer the letters of his fans.

Less than one month after taking over the job a letter from Larry Crosby! Dated August 2 1939 it went as follows:-

Dear Alfred,

We appreciate your taking over the club job, and hope it will be a pleasant and not too laborious task. We will co-operate in any way possible, and have placed you on the publicity list.

Regarding the postal note, we receive a few occasionally for the 'BING' book, and return them to the club for postage use, apparently you can't cash the one mentioned,

Best wishes, Sincerely, Larry
Then came November 1939 and a letter from Larry dated November 14, 1939 worded:-

Dear Alfred:

You and Flo have been doing a good job in these troublesome times. To assist you in getting out the bulletin we enclose a check,

Sincerely, Larry.

37 This check if I remember right; Y helped us to put out a bigger
magazine than usual and greatly pleased most of the members.
November 17, 1939 next and a further letter from Larry saying:-

Dear Alf, Considering Christmas presents, we decided
to send something more interesting and personal, so these souvenirs
from Bing's track are for you, your officers and assistants,

Sincerely, Larry.
These souvenirs were coloured linen table covers (small) emblazoned
with scenes from Bing's racetrack and autographed by Bing and Pat
O'Brien.

In 1940 we decided to send Bing a birthday present so we made a coll-
ection and eventually sent him two well known British pipes, with
which he was highly delighted (I think). Anyway his letter seemed to
illustrate - dated May 14, 1940 it went on to say:-

Dear Alfred,
Thanks to all for the dandy pipes and for
the good wishes. We are working on "Ghost Music" now for Paramount
and when this is finished I will vacation for a while. Thanks again
for your kind birthday remembrance.
We are pulling for the Allies (in longhand), Sincerely, Bing.

This was a great beginning and I was overjoyed
but all good things must come to an end and this did for me for good
in July, 1940.

Well, that is my story and I hope I have not bored you too much and
if the liason between Frank and our other correspondents with Bing's
H.Q. in Hollywood is as excellent as mine was, then they have nothing
to worry about.

Unfortunately some of the records of the club were
lost due to the constant moving about and packing and bombing.
And when I eventually came home for good I was not in the mood to
start where I left off. I also lost a great deal of my 78's record
collection of Bing, which may have been a vital factor in the control
of my mood at that time. Anyway, to end on a lighter note? I feel that
in joining the I.C.C. I have again joined the ranks of admirers
of our admirable figurehead - BING CROSBY.

it's always good to hear from people like

***** STEVE MASON - Bronx - New York - USA
July 22, 1968

Dear Frank,

Your very fine letter at hand, I must again say I'm sorry for not having answered
sooner. I've been on the road and it gets to be a grind after a while. Since you
were good enough to take an interest in my career I thought you would like to
know that I now have a new manager. A good one, by the name of James F Yoham.
In part, Jim was attracted to me by your wonderful publication's "BING" and "THE
GOLDEN YEARS" magazines. I'll always plug your efforts States-Side.
Yoham has booked me for THE JOHNNY CARSON SHOW, ART LINKLETTER, DICK CAVETT and
some five radio shows. I'll also be cutting some

37 This check if I remember right; y helped us to put out a bigger magazine than usual and greatly pleased most of the members.
November 17, 1939 next and a further letter from Larry saying:-

Dear Alf,

Considering Christmas presents, we decided to send something more interesting and personal, so these souvenirs from Bing's track are for you, your officers and assistants,

Sincerely, Larry.

These souvenirs were coloured linen table covers (small) emblazoned with scenes from Bing's racetrack and autographed by Bing and Pat O'Brien.

In 1940 we decided to send Bing a birthday present so we made a collection and eventually sent him two well known British pipes, with which he was highly delighted (I think). Anyway his letter seemed to illustrate - dated May 14, 1940 it went on to say:-

Dear Alfred,

Thanks to all for the dandy pipes and for the good wishes. We are working on 'Ghost Music' now for Paramount and when this is finished I will vacation for a while. Thanks again for your kind birthday remembrance.

We are pulling for the Allies (in longhand), Sincerely, Bing.

This was a great beginning and I was overjoyed but all good things must come to an end and this did for me for good in July, 1940.

Well, that is my story and I hope I have not bored you too much and if the liason between Frank and our other correspondents with Bing's H.Q. in Hollywood is as excellent as mine was, then they have nothing to worry about.

Unfortunately some of the records of the club were lost due to the constant moving about and packing and bombing. And when I eventually came home for good I was not in the mood to start where I left off. I also lost a great deal of my 78's record collection of Bing, which may have been a vital factor in the control of my mood at that time. Anyway, to end on a lighter note? I feel that in joining the I.C.C. I have again joined the ranks of admirers of our admirable figurehead - BING CROSBY.

it's always good to hear from people like

***** STEVE MASON - Bronx - New York - USA
July 22, 1968

Dear Frank,

Your very fine letter at hand, I must again say I'm sorry for not having answered sooner. I've been on the road and it gets to be a grind after a while. Since you were good enough to take an interest in my career I thought you would like to know that I now have a new manager. A good one, by the name of James F Yoham. In part, Jim was attracted to me by your wonderful publication's "BING" and "THE GOLDEN YEARS" magazines. I'll always plug your efforts States-Side. Yoham has booked me for THE JOHNNY CARSON SHOW, ART LINKLETTER, DICK CAVETT and some five radio shows. I'll also be cutting some new records in a few weeks and Jerry Simon, prexy at the record co has been around and knows how to zing some life into everything he handles. We shall see. Well Frank, it's about that time again. Pack a bag and off for a couple of nights in the mid-west. the family never seems me any more - write soon, and keep up the good work.

Best regards - STEVE

It's always good to hear from Steve - we are watching very closely from this end, hoping an eventual visit to the U.K will take place - best of luck from all at this end - KEEP THE STAMP OF GOOD SINGING FLYING STEVE M'.....

THE FRED REYNOLDS PARAGRAPHS

I can picture him now, sitting there on his ha-ha in the outback (wherever that might be) still "scratching his noggin" for ideas to send to Murphy. Respects of course to all other contributors to the last issue but the suggestions from our NSW correspondent took first prize. I expect that some of you very rudely thought that his esoteric cogitation was an elephantine labour to produce a mouse but I will have none of it. It was a very good idea indeed - a complete Bing Crosby discography - and furthermore he suggests that it's about time someone got on with the job. It pains me, therefore, to tell our friend, who obviously writes with more enthusiasm than accuracy, that it's been done - after years of work and research - and that the issue was limited to 150 copies because, produced at their own expense, the team members have limited financial resources. His other suggestion of soliciting a critical article on Bing's ability gives me the shudders; not, I hastily add, the suggestion itself but the memory of what can happen to any such author. One of the more enjoyable of human sensations is mass hysteria, as any lynching party could testify, and following an article I wrote some months ago in a determined effort temporarily to evade the infection of a surrounding and stifling enthusiasm, I was forced to seek police protection - and I was supporting Bing.

"Say One For Me", shown on 15th May on BBC 2 TV, was seen in its original De Luxe colour by the half-dozen or so in this country who have colour sets. I had to content myself with seeing it in black and white and thought that Bing looked better than in the colour version. The "schmaltzy" story was not easy to take but Bing's rendering of "I couldn't care less" with an unseen Buddy Cole playing piano was very much to my taste. I preferred the film "Rhythm On The River" (BBC 2 TV, 5th June) including the appearances of Harry Barris, John Scott Trotter, Ken Carpenter, Wingy Manone, and the film debut of pianist and wit Oscar Levant.

Mention of Oscar reminds me that I recently obtained a copy of the LP featuring him with Al Jolson in selections originally recorded for NCB Kraft Music Hall broadcasts. The quality and material are excellent and the LP was the outcome, according to the sleeve notes, of one thousand man-hours of labour. All the Jolson Kraft shows were sifted, catalogued and annotated and the LP was finally assembled from seventeen different broadcasts. Obviously all copyright objections were overcome to create this LP and yet we are told that an album of Bing's Kraft material is virtually impossible because of such objections. The issue of the "Club Durant" LP with Jimmy's numerous guests must have not and overcome similar difficulties. Come on Decca - what about a Bing "Kraft" LP?

The Epic 2 LP set "Bing Crosby Story - Vol 1", the Columbia "Hall of Fame" issue, "Paul Whiteman Orchestra featuring Bing Crosby", and the CBS 2 LP set "Bing Crosby in Hollywood" have given us a real feast of the young Bing. New collectors these days really have it made - some difference from how we junked for the 78's. Not that I'm complaining for this is just as it should be and no one is better pleased than I am to get these issues. I was delighted to see that the CBS album contained the Les Gaylor favourite, "Moonstruck", as well as my own choice from that period, "Black Moonlight". I recall writing an article more than ten years ago for the original "Crosby Collector" magazine in which I referred to both these songs as being written by the same team, Coslow and Johnston, and being recorded by Bing within a couple of months of each other. Both are superlative performances and my slight preference for "B.M." is because it is a more unusual song - a "moonlight" song with a difference having as its theme a "sombrely contemplated suicide". Bing's rendition of the verse and, particularly, the middle phrase or "bridge" of the refrain is exceptional by any standard. Pickwick's "Thoroughly Modern Bing" brings us right up to date. As with several issues of his modern recordings Bing's voice has to contend with

a somewhat loud accompaniment but the LP is very welcome. It has a wonderful picture on the front cover which I'm sure Fred Romary had something to do with. Fred, of course, did the sleeve notes for the album.

A couple of issues ago I wrote about "Tape Crosby" hoping that I could make a regular feature of reporting interesting comments and matters raised on the tape. The fact that I haven't done so is because the tapes are still in circulation and have not yet been returned to me. I think that I must have a Sammy Davis fan among my members doing his best to sabotage my efforts.

I was most interested to read in the May issue comments by Reg Bristo on the LP "That Travelin' Two-Beat". His remarks struck me as being particularly appropriate as well as most agreeable because when the LP was first issued I praised, in an article for "Crosby Post", the lyrics written by Ray Evans and the vocal and orchestral arrangements saying that in many ways this was the most interesting and entertaining Crosby album for some years. As I recall, my views were not generally accepted at the time; Geoff Milne, I think, didn't rate the album too highly. I am glad to see, therefore, even at this late hour that someone else appreciates the polish and wit of the songs. I still like the LP.

On 16th May, Radio 4 (Home Programme) broadcast a programme about Irving Berlin in which he spoke and in which some of his music was played. The programme commemorated his eightieth birthday - he was born on 11th May, 1888 - and included various tributes by sundry artists among whom was Mr. Crosby. The "Radio Times" write-up indicated that the programme had been specially recorded for the occasion but lo, and not only lo but also behold, I already had in my possession a taping of what Bing said. In fact much of the programme, including Bing's tribute, had been previously broadcast on Christmas Day, 1963. You just can't trust anybody these days.

FRED REYNOLDS

THE INTERNATIONAL CROSBY CIRCLE "SNOWBALLS IN AMERICA"

With our membership snowballing rapidly all over the world, ENGLAND still holds pride of place for enrolments, with AUSTRALIA coming up behind. AMERICA now looks set for conquest by our leading international group and July was a highlight of the ICC mailbag from NEW YORK - July 17th, ELAINE SMITH wrote to enrol in the club enclosing sub for two years back numbers of "BING"...July 22nd, STEW MASON wrote a fine letter which we hope to re-print in this issue...July 22nd, a most interesting letter from NEIL MC CAFFREY of The Nostalgia Book Club asking for all possible info on the club...CALIFORNIA too was busy during June addressing mail to the ICC and we record no less than three letters from the Crosby Office for June 1968...June 6th, a personal letter from Bing himself...June 18th, a personal letter from Larry Crosby, and on June 21st a further letter from Larry...must have had at least a dozen letters from other parts of the States from people like HARRY FULMER and BOB KUMI, not to mention a constant flow of ever welcome packages from the irrespressable FRED ROMARY.....looks to me like the ICC could take over the Bing scene in the USA, what say you Fred???

BRITISH ISLES

The ICC has recently at their request been filed with BORDER PRESS AGENCY of NEWCASTLE ON TYNE - serving the national newspapers, they were impressed by the service to Bingsters offered by the ICC and want any news we can supply - will do

TYNE TEES TELEVISION borrow Bing's BROTHER CAN YOU SPARE A DIME from HQ's Don't miss THE WAY TO THE WHITE HOUSE--TTT Sept 24th 23.30hrs to be repeated 29th Sept 13.30hrs

ALAN LURIE and RON BOSLEY present "THE BING CROSBY MOVIE FILE" - "LITTLE BOY LOST"

British 'U' Certificate Original running time-95 minutes

Screenplay by George Seaton from the story 'Little Boy Lost'
by MARGHANITA LASKI

Director of Photography... George Barnes, ASC
Art Direction... Hal Pereira, Henry Bumstead
Special Photographic Effects... Gordon Jennings, ASC
Process Photography... Farciot Edouart, ASC
 Loyal Griggs, ASC
Set Decoration... Sam Comer, Ross Dowd
Edited by... Alma MacRorie
Assistant to the Producer... Arthur Jacobson
Costumes by... Gladys de Segonzal
Make up... Wally Westmore
Sound Recording... Harry Mills, Gene Garvin
Assistant Director... Francisco Day
Music Score by... Victor Young

Songs:- THE MAGIC WINDOW-CELA M'EST EGAL-VIOLETS AND VIOLINS-A PROPOS DE RIEN
 Lyrics by Johnny Burke Music by James Van Heusen
Other song:- The Darktown Strutters Ball

Produced by...William Perlberg Directed by...George Seaton
A PARAMOUNT PICTURE Production Number 11494
New York Premiere...Paramount Theatre, Sept 21st,1953

CAST

Bill Wainwright... BING CROSBY
Pierre Verdier ... CLAUDE DAUPHIN
Mother Superior... GABRIELLE DORZIAT
Lisa Garret... NICOLE MAUREY
Nelly... COLETTE DEREAL
Laundress... GEORGETTE ANYS
Jean... CHRISTIAN FOURCADE

NOTES ON THE FILM "LITTLE BOY LOST"

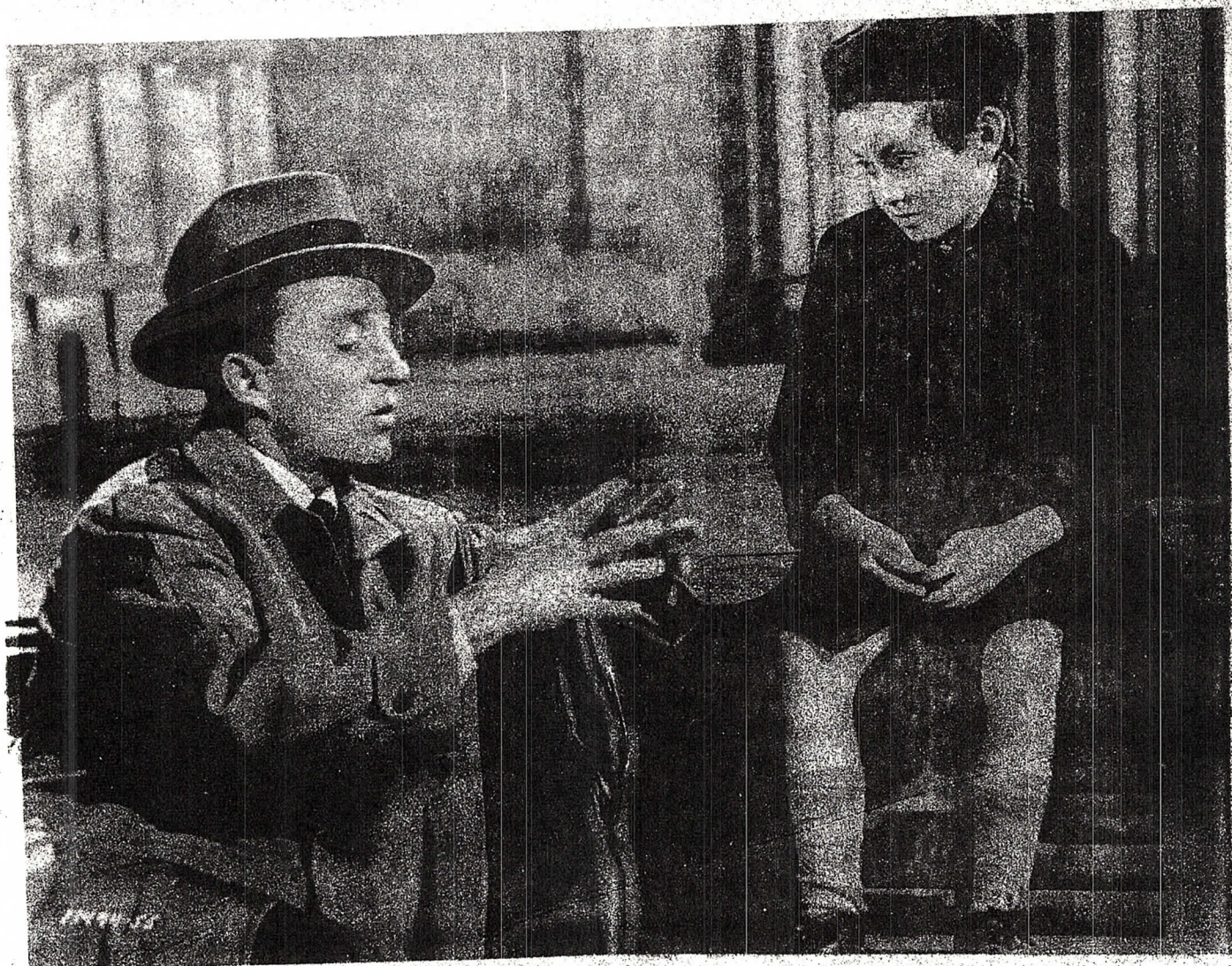
"LITTLE BOY LOST" is based on the novel of the same name by Marghanite Laski. Set in post-war Paris, it concerns the attempt of an American ex-war correspondent to locate his son, now nine years old, he has not seen since birth. Eventually the trail leads to a spindly-legged frail looking youngster in a French orphanage, a boy the reporter feels could by no stretch of the imagination be his own offspring. In spite of this a bond develops between them, but the newsman decides against taking the boy to America because of his uncertainty that the boy really is his son.

With the help of his friend Pierre, he realises that he seeks his son more as an emotional tie with his dead wife, murdered by the Gestapo during the war, than for the child's own sake. He decides to return to America without the boy. While waiting for his train he spends a short time at the local fair, accompanied by a woman he has met at the hotel, and at a shooting booth he wins a toy dog, exactly like the one he had once given to his wife who had promptly named it "BINKIE". He sends it to the boy at the orphanage as a farewell gift, but at the station he recalls a terrifying dream that his wife once had, about a little boy who was all alone and needing help. Torn with emotion, he hurries to the orphanage in time to see the boy open his present. At once the child clasps the toy dog to him, crying "Binkie--Binkie, he has come back". This is positive proof that the boy is indeed his son, as no one else could have possibly known the name. The film ends with the reporter clasping his son by the hand and leading him out of the orphanage.

Ctnd next page



“LITTLE BOY LOST”



Claude Dauphin was an experienced stage and film actor in Paris before he went to Broadway and his first American contract with Warner Brothers. Bing is reported to have personally chosen Nicole Maurey for the part of his wife, a happy choice which was to be repeated years later in the less memorable "High Time". Christian Fourcade was also signed in Paris to play the part of Bing's son. Despite his age at the time (9 years old) he was already an accomplished actor on French films, radio and stage, and who can deny that he was a perfect choice for the part of the pathetic little 'Jean'. Finally much of the credit must go to the team of William Perlberg and George Seaton, both very experienced film craftsmen.

Writer, Director GEORGE SEATON had done just about everything in the business. He was an actor, became a writer for M.G.M. and had even acted in and provided sound effects for radio's original "Lone Ranger". His film credits as writer and director are many.

[illegible]

Members may wish to note that the LONGINES SYMPHONETTE SOCIETY of 98 Church Road, Hove Sussex have informed me that their second set of BING CROSBY records should be available from them during early August. These records are known as BING CROSBY'S TREASURY "THE SONGS I LOVE - REVISED VERSION. They also have on hand several sets of the first sets of records Bing did for them and members should write to Mrs Sheila Sinden, Sec to Mr Beecher-Stevens

A few weeks ago CBS told me they only had 360 sets of this double album at their depot - Members should make sure they get their copy right away, once this set is deleted it's very doubtful whether such an expensive production will be reissued. Reg Bristo has given this set a terrific three page plug and review in the July 25th issue of THE GOLDEN YEARS (please note review copies of this issue of GY&S are not available, due to heavy demand from new enrolments) - this plug will ensure a heavy demand from the many dedicated Crosby admirers within the 30's group.

WOMAN - The Worlds Greatest Weekly For Women - Published by : Odhams Press Ltd have just asked to be filed with the ICC for all news on Bing - it's a pleasure to extend our international news service to Odham Press - London.

BING AND I.....ERIC PARKER

I first heard of Bing Crosby around '32' - I think it was the film 'The Big Broadcast'. Luckily, I was on the night shift and was able to attend the matinee and I thought he was terrific and almost at once I began to buy his records - the old 78 rpm!

I met my wife about this time also but she would not accompany me to see Bing if he was in a film somewhere in Sheffield, Hull or Leeds, but I still went in spite of arguments and she often said I thought more of Bing than of her and I honestly think I did at the time! I have begged lifts in coal lorries, butcher's vans, milk floats and even had a ride so far in a hearse! (I like the 'so far' bit - sub/ed).

I could not wait until the pictures arrived at the local town or village - I had to go as soon as I heard where he was appearing, I did not care how I got there or how I got home! I used to fancy myself as a budding Crosby but I was too shy to pursue it. I once wrote to Leonard Henry, who was talent spotting and broadcasting from Radio Luxemborg, but it meant me going to London and I could not afford it at the time. My friends tried to persuade me to enter competitions locally but, like I have said, I was very timid but I was told I would have won hands down if I had had the nerve, some of my best pals had heard me croon and said I was pleasant to hear. I once remember I was working in the fields one time and a young lady who heard my singing 'Brother can you spare a dime' said 'You should be putting that talent to some use'.

After I was Married I did overcome my shyness a little and began to sing in the local club and pubs but only to entertain the company. Yes! I have had a few ribbings about 'Dor Bingle' but I didn't care for I thought he was the greatest, and I still do. The nearest I ever heard to Bing was a singer named Dick Todd but I think he was killed in the war - I never heard anything of him after. Next to him was poor Michael Holliday who tried to copy Bing up to his demise. I still listen to him now during my leisure hours, reminiscing of the anxious times when I could not get to see Mr. C. - which were few and far between.

I was terribly upset when he came to London the first time and I know it would be hopeless to try and get to see him but I still have high hopes of doing so even though he is 64 in May, but I will always remember Bing as he was in the thirties (happy days)!

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WHAT BING CROSBY HAS MEANT TO ME.....JOHN DOBSON

I first remember hearing Bing in 1939 when we had our first radio set - a home made battery set. I can recall Christopher Stone playing a lot of Bing's records in his Radio Programme - Just one more chance, Goodnight Sweetheart and the other 1939 hits. I was 14 at the time, still at school and my father was out of work so I could not afford to go to the cinema a great deal and missed a lot of Bing's early films. Here is my Heart in 1935 was one of the first I saw.

In those days I used to buy a lot of McGlennons Song Books in Woolworths and as many of us felt that we could sing a little bit like Bing I would sing a great many popular hits of the day for my own enjoyment and needless to say they were nearly all Bing's. During the rest of the thirties I went on to see a lot of his films but somehow or other only managed to buy a dozen or so 78's. Then the war came and as Ken Hoylo says Bing was there to cheer us on our way.

My interest in Bing had started to grow again a few years previously when I bought a record player and Bing's Musical Autobiography were my first LPs. I have now gone on to buy most of the LAT series, Ace of Hearts and all Bing's Hollywood not forgetting quite a number of the old 78s. The showing of a great many of the marvellous films on TV during the last three years has held my interest. To me Bing's main asset is he makes one want to sing like him (as if anyone could really) but his diction is so clear that it is easy to pick up the words. Like many other members I would say that Bing's greatest period was the 30's and I have memorised 50 of so lyrics of the songs of that period and often sing them when out walking which is another of my interests. So I am looking forward immensely to the Columbia LPs - Bing Crosby in Hollywood 1930) 1934 and have ordered one from the Trans Atlantic Record Agency, Dublin but I have heard that CBS anticipate issuing this album in this country in april 1968. Great News!

BOB HOPE, discussing Bing Crosby's financial situation the other day, said as follows: 'Bing doesn't pay income tax any more. He just asks the Government what it needs'. Just the same I was not surprised yesterday to read that it was Bob Hope himself, the boy from South London, who was the richest entertainer in the world - worth at least (and those are the two words to remember) £62m, which is nearly a million pounds for every year he has been alive (he is 64). It might have been thought that Bing Crosby or Frank Sinatra or Jack Bonny, who has hitherto been credited as being the richest man in show business, would have out-ranked hope.

The two other performers most likely to nudge Hope with their financial holdings I would judge to be Crosby and Bonny. Both are in the 100 million dollar class but their current earning rate through films and personal appearances are less. Crosby makes his money through his investments in real estate and racehorses (including a race track) and music publishing firms and record royalties. And Bonny in 1913 was earning £50 a week in variety and in the mid-twenties it rose to about £200 a week. And taxes were then very low.

Sinatra is another case. In all probability his current earnings are more than Hope, Crosby, and Bonny put together, but Frank Sinatra came into the big league late (during the war), when the taxes were already higher.

It is noteworthy that no British entertainment name appears in this top money table from America. Not even the Beatles, who are mere millionaires in sterling. But then the Beatles have not been at it long enough, and you need staying power to put together this sort of wealth. I doubt if the Beatles ever will! But whichever way they arrange their money -what they have left at the end of another ten or even 15 years will never amount to anything like Mr Bob Hope's \$62 million. This is a unique achievement which will never again be equalled.

ISREAL - AIRMAIL.....SAMUEL STERNBERG

Hello to all Bing's and I.C.C. friends. It is Samuel Sternberg from Isreal again. Sincere and kind greetings to this meeting of yours to everyone. I wish I could shake hands with you. Frank asked me to say a few words on this occasion, with your permission. Well here we are....

Whenever I listen to Bing's loveable voice I come on to the same thoughts and emotions..How did it come - quite historically - that millions of people felt the same urge to listen to his unusual voice for so many years? Did it accured to you to realise that Bing's voice possesses the strength of a healer? Probably to none of you this is a new discovery nevertheless this should be told again and again.

Throughout Bing's well gifted voice - the gift of God, I believe - pop music turned into what it could and should be. This I found hidden behind the initials of the word P O P, say:-

P...for Peace

0...for of

P... People.

I mean of course the peace of mind!

Bing

Also, if you like you can adopt another great idea as being the:-
PHYSICIAN OF PATIENTS, which makes the same sum of P O P.

The following is dedicated to Bing on this special occasion of yours.

Listening to music and at the same time to a singer's voice should be regarded as an art which acts as an indirectly creative process. A sense of security can develop through the association of pleasurable experiences we gain through Bing's voice. It is like a baby who has been sung to by his mother with a feeling of well being and affection. As music and singing is the most social of all arts it creates communication between people in various ways - whether it is a lone listener or when a group of people share the same musical experience.

Everyone is sensitive to the nature and quality of the sounds that reach him and this apply to voice and music as same. Thus a too high pitched voice may make us tense and nervous, whether a low pitched voice, firm and articulate will help to calm down, because its timbre gives us the feeling of confidence and helps communications - whatever this voice says. I think it is not WHAT Bing says, but really how he says it at the end. So will his personality be reflected through his voice and here I believe stays his theraputic value for the millions who know

An intelligent man will become aware of the power of Bing over his own psychological and spiritual state - since it could arouse only the BEST in him, harmonise and purify his emotions. Bing's voice is indeed filled with love to the Universe, and this in return brings to a better establishment between body and mind by the powers of his musical voice. In that interval of time proper medicines given could act to better purpose.

IDENTIFICATION

COMMUNICATION

ASSOCIATION and

SELF EXPRESSIONS.

Lots of luck to everyone and a special CHEER to Frank for all his efforts not to let us forget the one and only one BING. Keep fit. Shalom..... Samuel.

WAITING FOR JACKIE.

CANADIAN AIRMAIL.....JEAN PAUL FRERECAULT

The disappearance of his father is not a secret, but some of Jackie's closest co-workers have never heard it mentioned. Perhaps it's hard to understand. Nobody ever turns his back on Jackie now. Nobody.

Jackie, 'a night club manager says, 'acted like a celebrity before he was one.' Now that he's proved his wildest boasts, he has to reach way out ~~to~~ to find anything he might conceivably fail at.

Five! It's the number alone that seems to have him transfixed. Wouldn't Jackie do anything as long as he could do it five times bigger than anybody else? He likes to see how many carcasses he can crowd into one, how many millions of dollars he can capture for his TV show, how many superstars he can round up for a single program.

One night this fall, when Bing Crosby Alan King and Liberace had all come in to be guests on his program, Gleason unbent himself and throw a party at his home. He didn't bother to go to the party someone else throw -

the one where Alan King startled the black-tie guests by wandering through without socks and bare-chested under his suitcoat. 47
Liberace, one of the night people, is a man of demonic energy who keeps going till 5 in the morning while other people drop away behind him. So when Gleason's party had filtered down to just a handful, Liberace was there and he knew what Gleason needed. He sat down at the piano and produced acres of music in the florid style that takes Jackie into the place he likes best - the past.

'The old romantic tunes - Jackie loves that, especially on a few drinks.' one of the guests said later. 'He's Catholic and he can't marry Honey because he can't get a divorce. So - ' The thought is left unfinished. Like the story about his father which never gets told, the one or two unfulfilled things in Jackie's life are considered good subjects to leave alone.

'They keep tellin' me,' snorted Barbara Nichols, 'that Jackie has a family-type show. This is a family-type show, they say; you gotta wear more beads. They add beads and beads till I'm beads all over and they don't even want me to wear a mini-skirt!'

Barbara, the roughneck hoyden who plays pathetic hatcheck girls and noisy strippers and Jack Benny's girl-friend, bent way over for the photographer who was taking her picture in front of a big Miami Beach swimming pool. She pretended she was releasing the top of her swimming suit, drawling, 'I'm family-type, aren't I?' Then she shrugged and added that it made no difference if the Gleason show was anti-cleavage because at least she'd had the professional thrill of seeing Gleason in action.

Sometimes you can wait all week to see Gleason in action. Crosby and King and Liberace were crowded into the same bill on a Gleason variety hour as comedian George Kirby and a group called the Fifth Dimension. The Fifth Dimension were so sensational in rehearsal they practically got standing ovations from that gaggle of rehearsal folk who think they have seen everything. Gleason wasn't there. He wasn't there most of the time. 'You wouldn't think Gleason would let guys like Crosby and Liberace hang around here, wondering where he is,' somebody hissed at no peevishly. 'There's your story!'

Crosby was on stage at Miami Beach auditorium, had been there for hours, and director Frank Bunetta began to mouth Jackie's lines for him so Dor Birle would have something to rehearse against. When Bunetta turned away to yell at the prop men, Crosby would walk into a shadow and do an impromptu little dance. He picked up his heels just for himself - like a bored little boy trying to have fun.

If any of his superstars felt that Jackie should be out there, playing nursemaid or at least working as hard as they were, none of them said it. The odd thing was that King and the others - like Gleason, a law unto himself - were the kind to understand Jackie; the kind who didn't care if he worked only when he had to work; and the kind who would understand the crazy thing in Jackie that makes him want to spend his time thinking up ways to flabbergast everybody by designing night clubs or golf courses. 'Jackie's a visionary,' said Crosby. 'The size of anything is never gonna scare HIM off.'

The remark could have been made of almost any of them. King not only juggles his own stage career but stages concerts for Barbra Streisand, brings in Broadway productions and has discussed a TV series called Anything Incorporated (the title being an excellent capsule description of the manifold activities of wit-author-producer-entrepreneur Alan King). Crosby, quietly a tycoon when other stars didn't even own a paunch, was being his own overcasual self. He confided that his reason for doing the Gleason show was - ah, the world is rife with surprises - money.

'I got to work, got some obligations,' he said. 'I've got to have an income to meet the charitable contributions I've made. People think I don't have to work) that's ridiculous. And Liberace, who had long since got rid of his piano-shaped swimming pool in search of more virile symbols of achievement, had his own project

This was underlined by the strange ceremony that took place at the beginning of this television season. Jackie had returned to Miami Beach from the Continent, declaring that Europe was 'just a change of bartenders.' In its convention hall, the city of Miami Beach put Jackie Gleason on an actual throne in front of the most potent assemblage of business and entertainment leaders the State of Florida had ever seen. It gagged a few stout souls who think there is such a thing as carrying adulation too far. But none spoke out.... Could there be too much adulation for the 8-year-old boy inside the 52-year-old man, who was left in desolation long ago by a father who never can back

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"THERE WAS ONLY ONE THING WRONG WITH THE PROGRAMME, IT ONLY LASTED a $\frac{1}{2}$ HOUR"
14 year old club member TONY EULMER writes from Guisborough, Yorkshire.

"I hope club members did'nt miss BE MY GUEST on BEC radio recently. Bing was on the programme telling everyone about his early life. This was of a lot of interest to me because I did'nt know much about his early career. He talked about such people as EDDIE LANG, and PAUL WHITEMAN and there was only one thing wrong with the programme, that was, it only lasted a 1/2 hour.....TB

The next issue of this magazine will be due out on NOVEMBER 5th - Contributors please file all material direct to the editor not later than OCTOBER 5th

Under the double 'R'.

On April 20th 1968, that jaunty, eternally youthful leprechaun from Washington state, ambled on to the now well worn ABC TV stage at the Hollywood Palace, to offer his special blend of songs and fancy patter. A unique offering, not only because Bing was at the helm but because the TV season in the States had come to end weeks earlier. We then ventured into the midst of re-runs on every channel. There is this terrible period annually between April and July when the networks see fit to repeat what they consider their choicest of the 'Best of....,' for all those who may have missed them first time around. They fail to see that people hibernate close to the boob-tube during the winter months, and 83% of them have already seen 'The distinct offerings....'

Well, so much for the snide comments, and as sponsors say, 'now back to our.....' The Groaner glided through 'Where the Rainbow Ends' in good style and in doing this song billed as NEW from France (to our shores that is) it was a marked association with the rerelease of his Pickwick International Products single of the same title. Incidentally, the reverse side is 'What's More American' distilled from Crosby's 'Thoroughly Modern Bing' album.

Also on the bill at the 'Palace' (boy that expression takes no back) I found the singing King Sisters (that smash family act around the country once again) a team in which Bing likes to exercise his pipes. Crosby worked with 16 children, of the 'Palace' productions crew, but the best segment, found Florence Henderson, and Bing trying to order hamburgers from a snobbish waiter, portrayed by comic Sid Caesar.

All in all I was sorry to see the curtain rung, and the lights dimmed on a good 'Palace' season, knowing it would be late August or early September before I'd hear '.....And now here's your host for tonight..... BING CROSBY!!'

To help ease this TV catastrophe, the remainder of the viewing week was spotted with showings of the 'Road To Zanzibar' (Bing and what's his name?), 'The Jazz Singer' (Al Jolson, Warner Oland), 'Kid Millions' (Eddie Cantor, Ann Sothern), and 'Say one for me' (Bing, and forgot his name).

Because My Baby Don't Mean Maybe Now.

Where success is concerned wives of famous show people sometimes feel constrained to prove their place in top-billing, or they believe that their marriages will be more fruitful and lasting if they keep proving their own talents. Take into consideration Bing Crosby's beautiful wife Kathy. After a decade of marriage to the most celebrated man in show business, she continues to become a more competent wife with each passing day. She is known to have an equal sense of humour as Bing's and has never been content just to be known as Bing's wife.

Being a good wife and mother has never been enough for her. Even though she is mistress of three homes, and the mother of three children, Harry Lillis, Mary Frances, and Nathaniel. Before the Groaner popped the question she was becoming a motion picture star, and a good journalist. Later proved by the over-whelming success of 'Bing, And Other Things.' Truly a gal with good credits to begin with.

Kathy recently stated, 'I believe all modern women want to prove they are people in their own right, or they should want to. Being around a genius like Bing, I just couldn't be the lazy type even if I felt like it. Bing is relaxed and an easy going person, but I don't let that image fool you. he's always involved with all sorts of projects. So it seemed natural for me to work hard for my nurse's cap, to get a degree to teach, to model for charity.'

Mrs. Crosby, isn't for giving up her career as an actress.

Appearing in several plays each year, she appears on television with and without Bing and is now about to be involved in a motion picture deal. Some of her earlier films were 7th Voyage Of Sinbad, Anatomy Of A Murder, Reprisal, Five Against The House, Gunman's Walk, etc.

'Bing doesn't mind working. If I do go on tour I always take one or more of the children along. This gives them a chance to see the country. Our daughter has already had a starring role with her father on TV. Her Daddy thinks she has been bitten with the show-business bug'.

Kathy, won several beauty contests in Texas, her home state, and she was an outstanding athlete. A talent scout brought her to Hollywood and while there she continued to write for her home town newspapers. It took Bing four years to decide on a second marriage. During this period she kept herself busy with acting and writing. After she and became a mother three times it took her five years to earn her nursing degree.

After ten years of marriage the Crosbys spend part of their time together in their Rancho La Cruces home, Baja, California. Being near Mexico, Kathy donates her time as an unpaid nurse to the public health officer. She gives advice to parents on proper sanitation, and medical care. She vaccinates hundreds of children, and since she is a neighbor the people allow her to do certain things they'd not tolerate from a medical man. To the towns women she is a wife and mother as well as a good nurse.

As an authoress Kathryn stated... 'Bing thought I should write about my family, about the community I grew up in and about Hollywood. He said 'Don't be shy about writing about our romance, my conversion to Catholicism and about my decision to become a nurse.' A long time ago while on a USO tour and visiting a hospital a lad named Hugh was in bad shape. All Kathy could do was stand by his bed and hold his hand while the nurses were really doing something for him. 'I felt useless and I was determined to study nursing, to learn to help the sick and needy.' There are few women who would have carried out this most emotional decision. Like most Texans, Kathy is of pioneer stock and she stuck to her convictions even after marrying one of the richest men in the United States.

No one argues Kathryn Grant Crosby has had to endure and achieve a great deal to keep pace with her husband. The road which leads to charm and ~~beauty~~ beauty is her path.... and that's one ending in a rewarding human life. Both she and Bing set good examples for their children. Kathy summed up with 'That's what life is all about. Showing our children the right way to live.'

.....
This may or may not be news to most collectors of Bing Crosby records. I don't know. But over at RCA VICTOR we came upon an acetate of Bing Crosby singing I'M THROUGH WITH LOVE and JUST ONE MORE CHANCE. This 36 year old recording, covered with dirt was recorded September 2, 1931.

It was intended as a promotion piece for NBC and later issued as a commercial, but nothing happened. The label states only what I have mentioned. There is no reference to orchestra.

DISCOGRAPHY NOTES. RCA VICTOR.

THE MUSIC OF HOME (TAKE 7)

THE NEW ASHOLEAN MARCHING SOCIETY, ETC. (TAKE 6)

IT'S A GOOD DAY (TAKE 6)

ALOHA MEANS I LOVE YOU (TAKE 4)

New York City.

This is from the shoots at RCA Victor,

Bing's new releases...

THOROUGHLY MODERN BING (P.I.P. 6802 STEREO)
Mastered 3/4/68

ARRANGED AND CONDUCTED BY 'BUGS' BOWER

TALK TO THE ANIMALS (3:07)/LOVE IS BLUE (2:33)/DING DONG? THE WITCH IS DEAD (2:12)/CHIM CHIM CHEREE (2:58)/(I CALL YOU) SUNSHINE (2:03)/HIGH HOPES (2:39).

THOROUGHLY MODERN MILLIE (2:10)/MY FRIEND, THE DOCTOR (2:55)/UP, UP, AND AWAY (2:48)/PUFF, THE MAGIC DRAGON (2:55)/WHAT'S MORE AMERICAN (2:30).
Release date about 10 days.

COLUMBIA (CL 2830) PAUL WHITEMAN AND HIS ORCHESTRA (FEATURING BING CROSBY)
CONSTANTINOPLE/'TAINT SO, HONEY, 'TAINT SO/GET OUT AND GET UNDER THE MOON/
I'D RATHER CRY OVER YOU/I'M ON THE CREST OF A WAVE/THAT'S MY WEAKNESS NOW/
BECAUSE MY BABY DON'T MEAN MAYBE NOW/OUT 'O TOWN GAL/I'M BRINGING A RED
RED ROSE/COQUETTE/REACHING FOR SOMEONE/S'POSIN/AT TWILIGHT/WHEN YOU'RE
COUNTING THE STARS ALONE/I'M A DREAMER AREN'T WE ALL?/A BUNDLE OF OLD
LOVE LETTERS.

EPIC E2E 201 MONO, E2E 202 STEREO - THE BING CROSBY STORY (VOL I) 9
dollars 59 cents.

MISSISSIPPI MUD/WA DA DA/'TAINT SO HONEY, 'TAINT SO/MY SUPPRESSED DESIRE/
MAKIN' WHOOPEE!/I'LL GET BY/IF I HAD YOU/SUSIANA/LET'S DO IT/THE SPELL
OF THE BLUES/MY KINDA LOVE/TILL WE MEET/LOUISE (WHITEMAN)/LOUISE (RHYTHM
BOYS)/I KISS YOUR HAND, MADAME/BABY OH WHERE CAN YOU BE/CAN'T WE BE FRIENDS
WITHOUT A SONG/IF I HAD A TALKING PICTURE OF YOU/AFTER YOU'VE GONE/YOU
BROUGHT A NEW KIND OF LOVE TO ME/LIVIN' IN THE SUNLIGHT, LOVING IN THE
MOONLIGHT/ST LOUIS BLUES (TAKE 1)/ST LOUIS BLUES (TAKE 2)/HOW LONG WILL
IT LAST/MY WOMAN/PARADISE/LORD, YOU MADE THE NIGHT TOO LONG/SWEET GEORGIA
BROWN/CABIN IN THE COTTON/SWEET SUE, JUST YOU.

BING CROSBY NEWS NOTES

BING CROSBY has completed a program for the VOICE OF AMERICA, entitled THE VOICE OF AMERICA SALUTES LOUIS ARMSTRONG. Armstrong not being available for the recording has been replaced by an impersonator. Yet unknown, he may be the fine mimic George Kirby.

News has reached me this week that there is definite proof of existing vocal duets between BING CROSBY/RUSS COLUMBO on tape and on acetates. They exist in the record collection of radio personality Norman Brokenshire. The new date for WHAT'S MORE AMERICAN/WHERE THE RAINBOW ENDS, the Pickwick single, to be in the shops is May 22nd. There is some talk that the mastering of the release is different from the first promo issues which went out to Bing and others. Unconfirmed as yet.

The Irving Berlin salute on the ED SULLIVAN SHOW was one of the all time highest rated shows on television.

From Charlotte, North Carolina, comes word that THE BOB HOPE look is here. The Hope look is colour, in 18 different shades, according to William W. Watts, manager of J.O. Jones. 'This desert Classic line should paint the town in lighter colours,' said Mr. Watts. The store will promote the line, by Hart Schaffner and Marx, as in the Hope image. He wore a blazer from the line during the last tourney telecast.

'We're already moving the blazers, golf jackets and trousers pretty well and when the major promotions break, sales should pick up,' he said. 'Better than 90 percent of our merchandise will be lighter than last year. I expect the grays will be the most merchandising colour, with coppers and gold a close second,' said Mr. Watts.

Other Bob Hope looks expected to be big around the cash-register are,

FRED ROMARY continues.....

Knitwear, Shape in traditional lines, Double Vents, Spread Collars, and beltless trousers. Bob Hope was quoted as saying, 'Crosby will be the first customer.....he'll be fitted for the boxes the clothes came in.

BING CROSBY, DOROTHY LAMOUR and BOB HOPE will be co-chairmen for the 50th anniversary of the VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS, to be held in New Orleans this summer.

BING CROSBY'S WASHINGTON STATE a 30 minute film made for theatres has been previewed on Seattle Washington TV, five times.

Bing's former co-star William Holden Filming THE WILD BUNCH in Mexico. GLENN MILLERS'S JONNIE Wed Frederick Swenson.

JIMMY DURANTE, a tremendous favourite is a huge success appearing at the Deauville in Miami Florida.

RUEY KEELERS son now 22 years old is on his way to Vietnam as Lt. John Lowe.

ARTHUR TRACY, famed Street Singer will return to the cafe circuit in this country,. He has enjoyed popularity around the world in recent months.

CARY GRANT upon leaving the hospital;; BOB HOPE said his X-rays will be soon previewed on TV tonight.

PHIL HARRIS knows a college kid who doesn't take chances, he boiled his draft card.

BING'S long time piano player BUDDY COLE's daughter is the love interest to one of FRED MACMURRAY's three sons on television.

BOB HOPE CLAIMS there are 324,000 babies born on earth every day.

'Either the Martians are taking the pill.....or Crosby has set up shop again.'

BING CROSBY says he sang in sleepy little towns but when he played a Southern one it was in a conga.

BUSTER CRABBE a 1930 Tarzan, on the subject 'Planet of the Apes':- 'Our mob finally beat your mob.'

Both FRANK SINATRA JR. and DEAN MARTIN have left Frank Sinatra's Reprise records label.

BING'S buddy MILTON BERLE follows Frank Sinatra into Caesar's Palace in Las Vegas mid July.

BING CROSBY punned his way with....Jackie Gleason is a very good drinker but compared to Phil Harris, he runs a FOUR second.

BING CROSBY about his childhood....'The finest lessons were learned at my mom's knee....and over dad's!'

BING CROSBY stated it's an early spring 'The swallows showed up in Capistrano, the students in Fort Lauderdale, and the tax collectors are showing up everywhere.'

Recent Hollywood Palace hosted by Phil Harris had Phil Crosby as a guest star. This lads voice has improved greatly.

The wealthiest actors in Hollywood are considered to be Bing Crosby, Bob Hope, Walter Brennan and Fred MacMurray.

Another of Bing's leading ladies, INGRID BERGMAN will make her first Hollywood film in a long time, for Columbia. The project is a walk in the spring rain.

BORIS KARLOFF who is as much a part of the thirties as Artie Shaw turned 80 years of age... and has no plans for retirement. In fact he just signed for four films in Mexico and Hollywood.

BING'S Road pal DANNY THOMAS son Tony is currently appearing at Arthur's Discotheque with his rock group the Thomas Group.

BOB HOPE serves as chairman of the entertainment committee to raise three million dollars for a centre for Communications Arts at Catholic University with construction starting in July.

BING CROSBY has pledged full support for the royalties battle Tony Bennett is staging in Washington.

FRED ROMARY continued.....

BING thinks he knows what happened to all those auctioneers you couldn't understand....They're now running for polotical office.

BOB HOPE.... 'Some women call it pin money because they have to needle their husbands to get it.'

"JACK BENNY ' won't tell you how much i'm insured for.... but when I go, they go!"

KATE SMITH has a new favourite sport. She states ...I'm playing golf like Bing and Bob now, - golf is a wonderful game.'

A little girl gave Bob Hope a string of beads which he wore meeting Joe. E. Lewis. He gave them to Joe who ate them thinking they were popcorn

BING CROSBY in an interview recently stated he thinks Al Jolson was the greatest of all performers.

The Mills Bros. were a smash hit on the recent Wayne Newton TV spec.

Their recording CAB DRIVER is a big, big seller.

My how times change. Today Bing and Frank Sinatra are great pals and have gotten together many times to just kick around some good fun. But back

some 24 years ago fan magazines carried an item which stated; Don't be taken in by all that love and affection going on between Bing Crosby and Frank Sinatra. It's good business on the part of both.

BING CROSBY has signed for a few specials on NBC this fall season, they will be spliced into the KNH series, along with Como, Astaire, Hope, etc.

Grooner STEVE MASON taping The Johnny Desmond Show this week. He will do three of his biggest request numbers.

THOROUGHLY MODERN BING, the Groaners latest album still hasn't made it to the starting gate yet. It's hard to figure what the trouble is this time. It's been held up for months.

ELLA FITZGERALD jamming Rainbow Room, N.Y.C. was an orphan discovered by Chick Webb. Her first hit of course was 'ATisket, A Tasket'.

Duke Ellington recently said, 'Ella, just great, that's it... just great.'

Bing Crosby said, 'Ella, they all need some of your lessons'.

BING'S pal Dean Martin's daughter Dina, will tour in Star Spangled Girl opposite George Hamilton.

BING told Dean Martin he should swear off liquor. Dean said, ' Say, Bing, I'll drink to that! '

BING'S pal LOUIS ARMSTRONG and his All Stars' next long engagement will be at the Bradley Club, Leeds, England. 'I got a big record over there, Daddy!!!' Louie Armstrong has slimmed down to 143 pounds and looks and

... recalled one of the greatest moments of his life. ' It was the time I

not the Pope... Lucille and no. You know, all in her veil and gleaming.

It was that cute little Pope not the one now. He said did we have any children...I said no Daddy, but we're still wingin'!

KATHRYN GRANT CROSBY has promised her new book for this fall. She is well into it now.

Bing is such a great pal states Dean Martin, 'He bought me a gift that warmed my heart. He gave me a mustard plaster.'

BOB HOPE claims....'Bing once had two sisters until he was 24 years old....then he bought them out.

FILMS IN REVIEW MAGAZINE (June - July 1968)

This monthly magazine will print it's entire issue on the films of BING CROSBY. If any one is interested I will take orders. I must warn the readers that they do not print a great lot so if you are considering ordering, better do it now. The price is 70 cents plus 25 cents postage and handling.

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 * from North Shields in the North of England *
 * FRANK MURPHY'S "Editorial Round-up" *

You know, it's a true saying that letters can influence headings. The one above was prompted by a very nice letter I had recently from ELAINE SMITH of San Remo, New York, USA, who said - "I am aware that Bing has always been immensely popular in England. It appears that the loyalty of England towards Bing has not faltered" I reckon Elaine spoke a book in that statement, and it is borne out by Bing himself who has often said his fans in England are among the most loyal in the World. I would however have to say here that according to my long association with Bing fans over the past 20 or so years - AUSTRALIA is in my opinion at least on a level with these sentiments, and could even be ahead if statistics could ever be added together - I know for certain that the members we have in Australia are most definitely the most loyal club members - we seldom fail to secure a renewal in this valued section of our membership. It's nice to know though that it is in England that we find the headquarters for this international ever growing group of members of Bing's fan club.

The past three months have been extremely busy ones for your truly - in June I decided to change my job and travelled to Leeds to have an interview with the Top Rank people (BingO) - the occasion was made very pleasurable since by arrangement I was hosted by my close friend MICHAEL CRAMPTON, had a nice lunch and a quick trip around some record stores before travelling back to Newcastle. I requested a second interview and this time I travelled to Whyteleafe in Surrey, again I was able to meet up with some personal friends, this time at Victoria Station for a short chat with Bob and Vera Roberts- it's one of the wonderful things of this club of ours that we can travel almost anywhere in the country and be able to meet up with old friends. The second interview talked me into joining Rank and two weeks later in mid-June I again travelled to London, this time to spend a two week course at their Belgravia Road HQ - nice hotel at Victoria, the Southfield, but the course was long and hard and when I returned home two weeks later after having had little time to see anything of London let alone arrange to meet London area members, I realised I had made a big mistake - the mistake was soon rectified however when I learned that the doors of my old club the Empire Jarrow were open for my return and in early July, I was back in command at my old happy club once more. Those pressurised weeks with Rank will go down as black weeks in my little red book.

In his British Report, Michael will be giving full coverage to our May 26th Convention, but I must briefly report how pleased I was with all the various arrangements which were handled so skillfully by colleague DON WOOLLAND - we had the best press, radio and TV coverage ever and it did a power of good for Bing, the club, and public relations - I was also very grateful for a very nice perk of 14 guineas earned in fees from the BBC as this went a long way towards meeting the cost of the event. Such occasions are a wonderful boost for club morale, and in our 1930's section I hope to be able to travel to Keighley in Yorks for the FABULOUS 30's BALL being organised there on the club's behalf by member Donald Williams on October 19th. I'm grateful to George and Renee Smith for their kind offer to put me up on the 18th and hope it will be possible to take advantage of such appreciated hospitality.

Members letters continue to play a big part in spreading the Crosby news around - the last few months postbag has been no exception. I specially appreciated the comments of members Thomas Colman and Jim Savage, it was nice too to see old stalwart Derek Parkes getting back into action, re-assuring too to note that at the age of 78, Mrs Embleton is still a devoted fan of the maestro - appreciated a phone call from Mrs Fell asking when the 'happy event' was due - nice personal touch which both Alma and I were grateful for. I thought the chance meeting between Vic Gilmore and Alf Farrow very amusing. Am having some interesting letter exchanges with William Love of International Association of Jazz Collectors, in Illinois, USA Mr Love is a dedicated collector of Crosbyana and I feel sure will provide the club with new outlets as time passes. Joseph Cleary couldnt be far out in his assumption.

ion that with a name like Murphy, I must have Irish blood in me - of course Mr Cleary, and proud of it too.

Members might be a little surprised to find the date of Bing's letter acknowledging our Christmas gift. June 6th 1968 - when in fact the gift had first been air-mailed to Hollywood in mid December 1967 - the reason is, customs - the parcel after having been stamped here and stamped there was eventually returned all the way to North-Shields as unclaimed - some urgent correspondence between yours truly and Bing's secretary Lillian Murphy showed that the parcel had in fact never reached the Crosby office and both Bing and Kathryn were very upset at the way our gift was being shuffled around - so back went the package and I needn't tell you how relieved I was to receive Bing's acknowledgment of this belated Christmas present.

Also sent Bing a whole pile of clippings covering the Convention, also courtesy of Don Denney in Spokane, Washington, some great news items covering the visit to Gonzaga University - and had the following letter from Larry-

BING CROSBY

HOLLYWOOD

June 19th 1968

Dear Frank;

Bing is leaving for Honolulu and asked me to thank you in his behalf for the press clippings.

Best regards - Sincerely Larry

LARRY CROSBY

Earlier this year I had sent Larry a copy of Decca's RARE STYLE album and in a letter dated June 21st Larry acknowledged safe receipt of this but indicated that some of the tracking appeared imperfect - through some correspondence with Mr Ray Crick of British Decca I was pleased to be able to arrange for a replacement copy to be sent to Larry on July 4th.

MFP continue the excellent new cheap label releases - this time with BING SINGS WHILST BREGMAN SWINGS - but who the devil designed that ATROCIOUS cover - whilst the BING AND LOUIS must so obviously have gained sales because of the wonderful cover photo, this new release must definitely LOSE sales because of that gaunt skeleton badly coloured and badly everything else production cover - I'm sure some of these fellow designing covers should have what brains they have, examined. I hope they recover from this slip up when they design the cover for EL SENOR BING.

I don't really think I've covered half of the points I wanted to raise in this issue, but I'm sure the above few points will give you a brief indication of just how busy I've been these past weeks - and happily it all points to the growing success of our joint promotions the ICC and the 1930's group, both running independent and successfully, the latter group owing a tremendous debt to our boy in Wales, Reg Bristo - it's a real happy thought to know that if things keep on as they are at the moment, and there's no reason to suppose they won't - our joint circulation at the end of 1969 will top 500 copies of the magazines going out to registered subscribers - it's a credit to our organisation and band of officers spread throughout the world that we have no real competition on an international basis and through our many registered sources we can offer our members all the goods they need to satisfy insatiable appetites for Crosbyana and music of the Golden 1930's etc - I'm especially grateful to the new team of editors showing up on the horizon - for it's becomes more and more obvious to me that I must seek to delegate this important chore to sincerely minded people for in the event of my having to hand over the reins I would need to know that there would be people of the calibre we now have to carry on the good work.

Until we meet again in the next issue,

Best regards

dm

 * A PERSONAL LETTER FROM BING *

BING CROSBY - HOLLYWOOD

Hillsborough
 June 6, 1968

Dear Frank and Members of the Circle;

Kathryn and I are very grateful to you for remembering us at Christmastime with the two handsome sweaters.

Most thoughtful of all of you, and we want you to know how much we appreciate it -

Warmest best wishes

signed BING

BC:In

Bing Crosby

 from Dunstan in the North of England BRIAN PATTINSON suggests a CROSBY ALBUM

SIDE ONE: SONGS OF THE WEST by Bing Crosby

The shifting whispering sands/Don't bury me out on the lone prairie/There's an empty cot in the bunkhouse tonight/Roll along covered wagon roll along/The wheel of the wagon is broken/Tenderfoot ride tonight.

SIDE TWO:

Timber winds/When the moon comes over the moutain/The lonely man/Dreaming Montana Moon/Nobod'ys darling but mine (new version) The shifting whispering sands - narrated this time.

This would be a fantastic album if it could come about - IT'S TIME BING TOOK
 A RIDE OUT WEST AGAIN.....

oooooooooooooooooooooooooooooooooooooooooooooooooooooooooooooooooooooooooooo

 * IT'S THAT CROONER AGAIN *
 * Universe - Friday July 5th *

BING CROSBY (Music for Pleasure, 13/11d) It's a long time (relatively speaking) since we had a record from Bing Crosby. He repairs the omission with a selection of what he describes as 'songs I wish I had sung the first time around'. They are all popular numbers, none of which Bing has recorded before. They include BLUE ROOM, CHEEK TO CHEEK, HEAT WAVE, MOUNTAIN GREENERY, and NICE WORK IF YOU CAN GET IT....Pleasant and tuneful - JC

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FRED ROMARY

===== is handling a huge consignment of record disposals on behalf of the widow of a DJ - yet to be listed are a couple of hundred 16" transcriptions and printed below are just a few from the terrific list - write direct to Fred for further full details direct to his home address (in list of officers.

JELLY ROLL MORTON (RCA) set of 4 records - photo binder - MINT - \$5-50
 Sidewalk blues-Dead man blues-deap creek-Red hot pepper-burnin the iceburg-etc
 RUSS COLUMBO (RCA) set of 6 records Binder & discs mint - \$7.00

The huge list contains many titles by TOMMY DORSEY:HELEN MORGAN:MILLS BROTHERS: PAUL WHITEMAN:XAVIER CUGAT:FATS WALLER:CONNIE BOSWELL:RUDY VALLEE:GENE AUTRY: JIMMY DORSEY:LOUIS ARMSTRONG:PEGGY LEE:EDDIE DUCHIN:PERRY COMO:SONNY DUNHAM: ART TATUM:DANNY KAYE...to name a few

"STAR LETTER" featuring JOHN BASSETT and BING

23, July 1968

Dear Frank, --

I'm the happiest man alive. About three weeks ago I wrote a letter to Bing, after finding his address in a back copy of the magazine. Yesterday (22nd) I received the enclosed reply, and as you can imagine, it really gave me a thrill.

This will always be my proudest possession, and I want to express my sincerest thanks to you and the club, who in a way have made it all come about.

Sincerely - John Bassett. Essex-England.

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BING CROSBY HOLLYWOOD

July 18th. 1968

Dear Mr Bassett;

You were very kind to write me the nice letter which I received lately, regarding some of the recordings I've made in the past, and how that you have been able to extract entertainment from listening to them.

I do intend to keep recording a little now and then, although there is not the call there used to be for my kind of work.

Most of the things that I plan to do will be albums and things of that nature. The singles just don't do very well.

I'm glad you've become a member of the International Crosby Circle. They've done a lot of helpful things for me, and for my career, in the past years, and I'm very grateful to them.

All best personal wishes. Believe me to be -

BC:Im

Your friend,
signed BING
Bing Crosby

* some late NEWSY-LETTER/PIECES: *
* *****

ENGLAND-"Over the past few years I have become a great fan of Bing and I would like to become a member of his fan club" - Donald Frazer-WHITEHEAD
BELGIUM-"I have just bought the 2 discs album "Bing Crosby In Hollywood, 1930-34 it is a splendid re-issue" - Iwan Fresart-WAVRE(Bt)
AUSTRALIA-"Glad to see that Fred Romary is with you now, he's become a real tower of strength among collectors. Was particularly interested in Don Denney's report on Bing's return to Gonzaga. is there any chance of getting a copy on tape of Bing's speech" - Graham Reade-REYNELLA 5161 (tape en route Graham)
CZECHOSLOVAKIA-"I have heard about your club from my friend in England, Mr Knight. I would like to know more about your group" - Jan Petrzilka-PRAHA 4
AMERICA-"I'm tickled pink with Bing's mention of me on the ICC personal message, he's one of the few people in the world who is able to pronounce my name" - Fred Romary-NEW YORK.
SCOTLAND-"I'm looking forward eagerly to the release in this country of Bing's "Thoroughly Modern Bing" album and also to his forthcoming visit here, hope he gets to Scotland on the trip" - Duncan Mc Lean-ALLOA.
ISRAEL-"Don Woolland was telling me of all the great efforts made to make the Convention a success and it's absolutely refreshing to have "BING" on hand on these hot summer days. I make it a habit not to start my morning jobs before I read one or two articles by my beloved friends in the club" - Samuel Sternberg-NESS-ZIONA

